



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

Dr. Mona Sharma, IAS.
Additional Chief Secretary
Forest, Environment & CC Deptt.
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

Mrs. Ranjana Chopra, IAS.
Principal Secretary to Govt.,
ST & SC Development Deptt.
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

D.O. No. 2052A/SSD
STSCD-FRA-MISC-0033-2014

Date: 26-10-2021

Dear Collector,

Government of India vide its DO letter dt.06.07.2021 signed jointly by the Secretaries of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) & Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) has conveyed the importance of implementation of FRA in the true spirit. Accordingly, following instructions are to be noted and all stakeholder Departments to be given proper orientation for the smooth implementation of the same.

Demarcation & correction of RoRs and maps in respect of the FR titles vested

- The law requires that after issuance of title, the recognized forest area needs to be clearly demarcated & incorporated in the Government records and copy of the RoR shall be provided to the rights holder. Only 52% of the titles vested have been corrected so far. So steps should be taken to complete the process immediately.

Recognition of Community Forest Resource (CFR) rights, as provided under Section 3 (1) (i) of the FRA

- Odisha is the only State in the country to prepare a 'CFR Atlas of Odisha' with preliminary assessment of the potential forest areas over which CFR rights can be recognized. Hence, appropriate action may be taken to extend support to the SDLCs and DLCs for expediting claim filing as well as recognition & vesting of the CFR Rights

Constitution of Management Committees as per rule 4 (1) (e) of the amended FR rules 2012

- Gram Sabha is the authority to govern and manage the CFRs by constituting Committees from among its members for conservation and management of the forest and to develop its own simple format for CFR conservation and management plan. So these Committees should be formed.

Conversion of forest villages/un-surveyed settlements etc. into revenue villages

- FRA provides an opportunity to convert all forest villages/ un-surveyed settlements/habitations etc. into revenue villages. In this regard, guidelines issued vide letter No. 3831 dt. 02.02.2017 of the Revenue and DM Department, Odisha may please be referred to & action needs to be taken in right earnest.

Proper exercise of the Community Rights granted for collection, use and disposal of MFPs

- The amended Forest Rights Rules, 2012 provides that the transit permit shall be issued by the Committee constituted under Rule 4 (1) (e) or the person authorized by the Gram-Sabha. Rule 2 (d) of the amended FRA rules also provides that “the procedural requirement of transit permit in no way shall restrict or abridge the right to disposal of MFP”. Hence massive awareness campaigns & orientations among field officials of the concerned departments are to be made, so that Gram-Sabhas are able to exercise the rights, as enshrined under the Forest Rights Act and Rules.

Convergence of various schemes and programs of the Govt. for livelihood enhancement of the right holders

- As per the provision enumerated under rule 16 of the amended Forest Rights Rules, 2012, support to the Gram-sabhas and Rights holders through convergence of various programs and schemes of the Government are to be ensured.

In order to expedite the process of recognition of forest rights and post-recognition activities, ST & SC Development Department, being the nodal Department for implementation of FRA, has issued several circulars, guidelines, executive instructions on implementation of FRA, which can be accessed through the link: <https://stsc.odisha.gov.in/acts-policies-guidelines/scheduled-tribes-and-other-traditional-forest-dwellers>.

You are therefore, requested to look into the matter personally and ensure that FRA is implemented effectively in your district & all the officials of the concerned Departments (ST & SC Dev. Deptt. Deptt., Forest, Env. & CC Deptt., Revenue & DM Deptt., PR & DW Deptt., etc.) take appropriate action to follow it in letter and spirit.

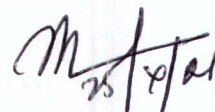
Yours Sincerely,



Dr. Mona Sharma, IAS.
Additional Chief Secretary
Forest, Env. & Climate Change Deptt.

All Collectors & Chairperson of DLCs on FRA.

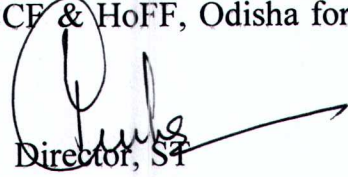
Yours Sincerely,



Mrs. Ranjana Chopra, IAS.
Principal Secretary
S.T. & S.C. Development, Minorities &
Backward Classes Welfare Department
Govt. of Odisha

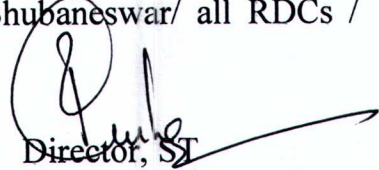
Memo No. 20642 / SSD, Dt. 27.10.2021

Copy forwarded to the Director, Special Projects, Panchayati Raj & D.W. Deptt./ the Special Secretary, Forest, Env. & Climate Change Deptt./ the Additional Secretary, Revenue & D.M. Deptt./ the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for information and necessary action.


Director, ST

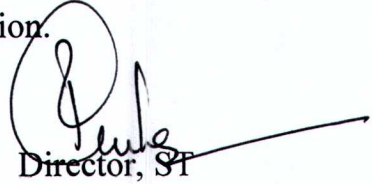
Memo No. 20643 / SSD, Dt. 27.10.2021

Copy forwarded to the Director, SCSTRTI, Bhubaneswar/ all RDCs / PD, OPELIP for information and necessary action.


Director, ST

Memo No. 20644 / SSD, Dt. 27.10.2021

Copy forwarded to all DFOs/ all Nodal Officers under FRA (9 PA, ITDAs & 21 DWOs) for information and necessary action.


Director, ST