

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ST & SC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No. 14 123 /SSD dated 5th August, 2017.
STSCD-FRA-MEET-0002-2014

From,

Sri Raj Kishore Das.
Asst. Director (H. qrs.)

To,

All Nodal Officers on FRA.
(9 PA-ITDAs and 21 DWOs)

Sub.: Submission of information on women right holders under the Forest Rights Act.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to state that the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and the Amended Rules, 2012 have legal provisions for securing women's rights over land and community forest resources as well as for their representation and participation in the process of determination of rights at various levels. Specific Provisions relating to rights of women under the Forest Rights Act and Rules are provided under Section 2 (g), Section 4 (4), Rule 3 (1) and Rule 4 (2) and gist of those are indicated below for easy reference & initiation of needful action on the matter. Thus, it has become imperative to collect and consolidate the data & information on women claimants/ right holders and whether their right to joint titles with their spouses under FRA is being implemented.

I would therefore request you to furnish disaggregated information on women FRA claimants and right holders in the attached Format by 21.08.2017, so that a database could be maintained for monitoring the status of claims and to take up necessary interventions through the DLCs and to ensure support for facilitation of claims and recognition of rights of women as well as to facilitate linkage of women forest rights holders with various programs and schemes of the Govt.

This may please be accorded Priority.

Yours faithfully,


Asst. Director (H. qrs.)

Gist of the provisions on Women under FRA

- Section 4 (4) of FRA stipulates that "A Right conferred under FRA *shall be registered jointly in the name of both the spouses in case of married persons and in the name of single head in the case of a household headed by a single person.* This ensures that rights over forest land of single women, including those heading households, are also recognized.
- In case of community rights and community forest resource rights, as these rights are to be recognized in the name of the Gram Sabha, all adult women members of the Gram Sabha automatically get equal rights. Section 2(g) of the act provides for the *Full and unrestricted participation of women* in Gram Sabhas.
- Rule 4 (2) provides that "*The quorum of the Gram Sabha meeting shall not be less than one-half of all members of such Gram-Sabha: Provided that at least one-third of the members present shall be women.*
- Rule 3(1) requires that the Gram Sabha shall elect members of Forest Rights Committee (FRC) consisting of not less than 10, but not exceeding 15 persons, of which at least 2/3rd members shall be Scheduled Tribes and at least 1/3rd of such members shall be women.

Format for submission of information on women claimants/right holders under FRA

Sl. No	Name of the women claimants under FRA	Category to which she belongs.(W/ D/ S) <i>Pls. see NB below.</i>	Nam of the village	Name of the GP	Name of the Block	Extent of forest land claimed	Extent of forest land vested	Other assistances provided	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

NB: W- Widow/D- Deserted/S-Single . (It is assumed that single women claimants/title holders are the heads of their respective households).