

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
S.T. & S.C. DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No. 13125 / SSD, Bhubaneswar Date, 22nd July, 2017.
TD-II-FRA-MISC-0013/2015

From

Sri Surendra Kumar, IAS
Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Govt.

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.,
Forest & Environment Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: **Alleged violation of the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA) and Amendment Rules, 2012 by the DFO, Kendu Leaf Division, Bhawanipatna**

Ref: This Deptt. Memo No-12098/SSD dt.04.07.2017, letter No-11634/SSD dt.23.06.2017 and letter No-11343/SSD dt.19.06.2017 communicated to the Forest & Env. Department, Odisha

Sir,

This is to inform you that petitions have been received from around six Gram Sabhas of Golamunda Block in Kalahandi district wherein it is alleged that the field functionaries of the Forest & Environment Department namely the, DFO, Kendu Leaf Division, Bhawanipatna is obstructing the sale and disposal of the Kendu Leaf which was collected legitimately by the community from within the assigned forest areas, based on Community Forest Rights vested with these Gram Sabhas. Copies of the petitions along with copies of the Community Forest Rights titles issued to these Gram Sabhas are enclosed herewith.

Perusal of these Community Forest Rights titles clearly indicate that the Community Rights have been given for collection of minor forest produce including Kendu Leaf, its use, sale and disposal. As the State Government under Section 3 (1) (c) of 'The Schedules Tribes & Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006' have conferred the right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of Kendu Leaf from the designated forest areas as specified in the Community Forest Rights titles, any obstruction in carrying out the rights of these Right holders is in complete violation of the provisions of the Act. Further any authority or an officer who contravenes with the provisions of the Forest Rights Act shall be liable to be proceeded against Section 7 of the Forest Rights Act.



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Hence, you are requested to issue necessary instructions to the field functionaries Forest & Environment Department not to obstruct any genuine right holders or community to enjoy the Community Rights conferred to them under the provisions of Forest Rights Act.

This is utmost priority.

Yours faithfully,



Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Govt.

Memo No. 13126 / SSD

Dtd. 22-07-2017.

Copy forwarded to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpr, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.



Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Govt.

Memo No. 13127 / SSD

Dtd. 22-07-2017.

Copy forwarded to Collector, Kalahandi for information and necessary action.



Commissioner-cum- Secretary to Govt.

