

**Status Report on Implementation of the
Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional
Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest
Rights) Act, 2006**

For the Period ending 31st August 2008

**Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Government of India**

Annexure-II

Statement showing State-wise status of implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006

(As on 31.08.2008)

Name of the State/UT	Status
Andhra Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels.2. Nodal Officer has been appointed.3. Translation of the Act and the Rules has been done in the regional languages and distributed to Gram Sabhas and Forest Rights Committees.4. Awareness programme on the Act has been taken up in a large scale including training up to the field level workers.5. Gram Sabha meetings have been organized.6. 2.95 lakh claims have been received and 2800(approx.) pattas are ready for distribution. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Arunachal Pradesh	No response
Assam	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels.2. Translation of the Act and the Rules in local languages is being done.3. A State level Committee for identification/declaration of critical wildlife habitats is being notified by the Environment & Forest Department.4. Shri L. Phangcho, IAS, Secretary to the Government of Assam in-charge of Tribal Welfare in the State has been nominated as nodal agency under Section 11 of the Act.5. 70,000 households likely to be benefited.

	<p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Bihar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 2. Nodal officer has been appointed. 3. Awareness about the Act is being created in a limited way through advertisements in local newspapers in the district. 4. Imparting of training has also started through MLAs, MLCs etc. Out of 390 Gram Sabhas, training has been completed in about 50 Gram Sabhas. 5. No claim has been received so far. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Chhattisgarh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State Government has constituted various Committees at State level, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 2. Nodal Officer has not been appointed yet. 3. Imparting of training has started at Gram Sabha and district level. 4. Translation of the Act and the Rules has been completed. 5. Awareness programme has been started and is going on in a large scale. 6. So far about 2.5 lakh claims have been received. About 1.05 lakhs sent to SDLC and, by end of July, about 15000 undisputed cases will be given titles. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>

Goa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shri N. B. Narekar, Director of Social Welfare & Ex-Officio Joint Secretary, Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Goa has been designated as Nodal Officer. 2. Awareness programme has been started and is going on in a large scale. 3. Prescribed Committee not formed. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Gujarat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 3. The Act and the Rules have been translated into Gujarati and 10,000 printed copies of each have been distributed at FRC level. 6 lakh Form 'A' and 1.5 lakh Form 'B' with receipt (perforated) 1 lakh copies of Claim register (For FRC) and 1 lakh copies of individual Case File have been printed, serially numbered and made available at village/taluka/sub-division/district level free of cost. 4. Programme for holding Gram Sabhas in the scheduled areas of the State was issued and the Gram Sabha have started meeting from 28.2.2008. So far, out of 6024 villages in the scheduled areas, Gram Sabhas and FRCs have been formed in 5569 villages. 5. Panchayat Department had requested the Gram Sabhas to meet around 25th March, 2008 to issue calls for acceptance of claims. Gram Sabhas were held in March-April and dates of acceptance of claims were declared. So far 33,185 individual and 425 community claims have been received at FRC level. 6. Formations of Forest Rights Committees have been completed 7. Master Trainers for training the members of FRC have been identified and Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRTI) have started training the Master Trainers. Training of 267 Master Trainers has been completed. Sub-Division level stakeholders have also been trained. Competent individuals and organizations have started training women SHGs in tribal areas and awareness generation was created. Total 3500

persons have been trained.

8. One lakh claim forms have been printed by the Government Press and have been sent to FRCs. Individual as well as community claims have started pouring.
9. Awareness generation material along with a small booklet on frequently asked questions have been developed for free distribution in the villages.
10. Guidelines, templates, formats and checklists have been developed in consultation with few experienced collectors.
11. A sensitization workshop was held on 24.2.2008, wherein Act and Rules were discussed clause-wise and clarifications offered. Another workshop to discuss issues at field level was held on 26.4.2008
12. A meeting with various departments was organized on 25.4.2008. The departments have been instructed to identify their need for forest land for providing infrastructural facilities under Section 3(2) of the Act. The issue relating to all-weather road connectivity in tribal areas has been referred to the concerned department to find out solutions under Section 3(2) of the Act. Guidelines have been developed and circulated to the concerned departments to solve the matter.
13. Concerned Departments have been instructed to identify their nodal officer at District level for providing information and documents to the FRCs and for accepting notices from them.
14. 40,600 claims have been received.
15. Programme of monitoring, web-based, developed. Four films have been made and being beamed through DD Gujarati.
16. For implementing the Act and monitoring the implementation process, an independent cell, headed by Joint Director under the Commissioner, Tribal Development has been set up. This cell will also coordinate working of other departments and carry out IEC related activities.
17. Monitoring format for implementation of the Act has been developed and the programme is being monitored every week. A Core Group headed by Secretary, Tribal Development has been set up on 8.4.2008 to review weekly progress and develop IEC plans.

	<p>18. A booklet containing 88 FAQs and A booklet containing guidelines in vernacular language have been printed in 10,000 copies each and distributed to FRCs. Typical phrases ,words and definitions translated and explained in English and Gujarati have also been circulated to the stakeholders up to Sub –Divisional level.</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Haryana	<p>There are no Scheduled Tribes and traditional forest dwellers living in the forests of Haryana.</p>
Himachal Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State, District and Sub Divisional Level Committees formed. 3. Forest Right Committees have been constituted in 121 Gram Sabhas out of 151 Gram Sabhas (80%). 4. State Government has informed that claims will be accepted from 1st July 2008. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Jharkhand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tribal Development Commissioner has been appointed as Nodal Officer. 2. District Level Committees and the State Level Monitoring Committee have been set up. 3. Forest Rights Committees have also been set up. 4. On account of non-holding of Panchayat elections, Gram Sabhas could not be set up in spite of advice from Minister of Tribal Affairs. 5. Translation of the Act and the Rules in local languages and their distribution have not yet been done. 6. Awareness generation and training started.
Karnataka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 3. The Act and the Rules have been translated into Kannada and have been circulated. 4. Training of officials of the Panchayat Raj Institutions, SDLC and DLC members has been started. 5. Action has also been taken to create awareness among the

	<p>general public about the Act and the Rules.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Instructions have been issued to the Chief Executive Officer, Zila Panchayat to conduct Gram Sabhas at each Gram Panchayat level to constitute Forest Rights Committee. Till July, 98 Gram Sabhas have been organized and 51 Forest Rights Committees have been formed. 7. Because of Election in the State, training programme and other work relating to the implementation of the Act has been delayed. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Kerala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. Various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional level have been constituted. 3. Translation of the Act and Rules in local language has been done. Distribution of the translated copies will start shortly. 4. Three meetings of tribal leaders have been convened. The meetings were chaired by the Chief Minister. 5. Gram Sabha meetings and election of Forest Rights Committees (FRC) would be completed by 15.7.2008; completion of FRC work by 20.9.2008, and Gram Sabha decisions would be completed by 15.10.2008. The schedule specifies that approvals of claims by District Level Committees (DLC) will be over by 15.1.2009 and distribution of title deeds will be completed by 15.2.2009. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Madhya Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State Government has constituted the prescribed Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 2. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 3. Sufficient copies of the Act and the Rules have been printed and sent to the district and villages. The Act and the Rules have also been translated and printed in the tribal dialects of Korku, Bhili and Gond. An awareness campaign about the Act and the Rules has been launched early this year. 4. Awareness programme on the Act has been started in a large scale including training up to the field level workers. Comprehensive media plan has been formulated. Electronic, print and folk media have been pressed into service. In tribal

	<p>areas, cultural troupes have been sent for awareness through songs and street plays. Workshops to sensitize the media have been organized at Indore ,Bhopal , Gwalior and Ujjain . One NGOs' workshop has been held inBhopal on 28 April 2008. More media workshops planned, 21 May at Rewa and 26 May at Jabalpur .</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The second meeting of the State Level Monitoring Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary was held on 17th June, 2008. All decisions taken in the first meeting on 4th March, 2008 have been fully complied with. 6. Training of 2886 sub division level committee members and master trainers completed by April 30, 2008. All the members of District Level Committees have been trained by 31st May, 2008. Special training of Member Secretaries of district and sub division level committees has also been completed during 5-12 June, 2008. The forest department, I.T. division has held training in five batches of master trainers for operating Personal Digital Assistant. 7. Clarification on "primarily reside in and who depend on the forest or forest lands" vide MOTA letter of 9th June, 2008 has been circulated to all districts and collectors have been informed on 18th June, 2008 through video conferencing. 8. Gram Sabha meetings have been organized and 8 lakh claim forms have been distributed. 9. A total of 2.53 lakh claims have been received in the State and approximately 5000 title deeds have been distributed. 10. Land survey with PDA has been started. 11. State Government has budgeted Rs. 23 crore for carrying out the Act. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Maharashtra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State Level Monitoring Committee, District Level Committees in 17 districts and 53 Sub-Divisional level Committees have been constituted. 4996 FRCs have also been constituted. 3. Gram Sabhas have been organized to form Forest Right Committees at village level from 1.5.2008 to 31.5.2008. 4. Translation of the Act and the Rules in Marathi, Korku, Bhillori and Gondli languages has been done. Bound copies of Acts and Rules in Marathi are under publication by the Government Printing Press. The applications forms are also under publication by the Government Printing Press. 5. District level training has been started. Some of the NGOs

	<p>working in the field have also been trained. They are giving presentation to tribals in Marathi.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Awareness creation meetings of the representatives of the Panchayat Raj Institutions, and field functionaries, including the field staff of various Departments, were organized in various parts of the State. Sufficient copies of the Acts and Rules in local language have been distributed in the Awareness training programmes at the field level. An awareness campaign utilizing Air India Radio services has been initiated in the month of March 2008. Radio jingles being broadcast are in local language. The Publicity of the Act is also being done by putting up posters on the State Transport buses plying in the tribal areas. Publicity through advertisement in local newspapers is also being given from time to time. A film "Dream of Soma" has been produced and distributed. 7. All forest villages in Maharashtra have been converted into revenue villages. 8. About 75,000 claims have been received. Work of verification of the claims has started from June 2008 and, by September, titles are expected to be given. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Manipur	No response
Meghalaya	<p>Wide dissemination and publicity of the Act is reportedly being done through the District Social Welfare Officers. Prescribed Committees will shortly be set up, including a committee to identify critical wildlife habitats. Translation of the Act in local languages is held up on account of non-availability of the Act's legal lexicon in local languages.</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Mizoram	No response
Nagaland	<p>Government of Nagaland has informed that the land holding system and the village system of the Naga people is peculiar in that the people are the land owners. There are no tribes or group of people or forest dwellers in the State of Nagaland . Hence, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 per se may</p>

	<p>not be applicable to the State of Nagaland .</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Orissa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 3. Imparting of training has started at Gram Sabha and District levels. 4. Act and the Rules have been translated into Oriya and distributed among the Gram Sabha. 5. Awareness has been created through printing and electronic media. 6. For training of PRI officials, SDLC, DLC members, workshops among the officers concerned have been organized. 7. Forest Rights Committees have been constituted in 42685 villages out of 46515 villages. 8. 77,894 claims have been received by the Gram Sabha. While 30634 claims are pending for examination and vetting by Sub-divisional Level Committees, 636 claims have been forwarded for final approval by the District Level Committees. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Rajasthan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioner, Tribal Area Development has been appointed as Nodal Officer. 2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels. 3. Tribals in Rajasthan are well acquainted with Hindi language, therefore, there is no need of translation into regional language. However, Act and Rules have been reproduced in simple language.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To create awareness, a Workshop of MPs and MLA of Scheduled Area has been conducted. Provisions and objectives of the Act and Rules were discussed at length in the workshop. Press notes in newspapers have been released from time to time. The Forest/revenue/PRI officials have been imparted training. 6. Order was issued to conduct gram sabha in each revenue village in Scheduled Area and in each gram panchayat in outside Scheduled Area from 8th April to 17th April, 2008. 7. Gram Sabhas have been conducted in 4718 revenue villages against 4718 villages in scheduled area. 4718 FRCs have been formed in Scheduled Area. Most of forest area covered in Scheduled Area. 8. Gram Sabhas have been conducted in 3510 gram panchayats against 8211 panchayats in outside scheduled area. FRCs have been formed in 3082 gram panchayats. 9. Outside the Scheduled area many districts do not have much forest land and scheduled tribes population. 10. Sufficient number of claim forms have been printed and made available to the applicant. 11. Claims have already been called by Gram Sabhas. 34370 claims have been received by FRCs so far. 12. 3634 claims have been verified by FRCs and submitted to Gram Sabha. 3634 claims have been recommended by Gram Sabha and sent to SDLC. 883 claims have been verified by SDLC and sent to DLC. 136 claims have been approved by DLC which include 135 individual claim and 1 community claim total area of approved claims is 49.18 Hect. 13. Process of distribution of title is going on. No claim has been rejected so far at the level of DLC. 14. District Collectors have been directed to make available progress to PROs on regularly on monthly basis. 15. Panchayati Raj Department's Gram Sahayaks are being engaged as facilitators.
Sikkim	<p>The Government of Sikkim has issued a notification dated 28.1.2008 regarding constitution of an Expert Committee for identification of Critical Wildlife habitats in Protected Areas (PAs).</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>

Tamil Nadu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. Various Committees at State level, District level and Sub-Divisional levels have been constituted. 3. Translation of the Act in Tamil has been done. But for the tribals in Nilgiris and Dharmapuri districts, the State Government will get translated copies in Malayalam from Kerala, Telegu from Andhra Pradesh and Kannada from Karnataka. 4. Work of setting up Forest Rights Committee has started. 5. Awareness programme has started in a limited way. 6. Claims have not yet started coming.
Tripura	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. The different Committees at State level, District level and Sub-Divisional levels have been constituted. 3. Training has not yet started. 4. Work for translation of the Act and the Rules has been completed and copies have been sent to Panchayats. 5. Forest Rights Committees are being set up. 6. Notification has been issued asking the DMs and SDOs to publicise the Act and the Rules amongst the tribals. 7. Because of the Assembly elections in the State during February, 2008, the process of implementation of the Act has been delayed. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Uttar Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. Different Committees are scheduled to be framed by 30.06.2008. 3. 15,000 copies of the Act and the Rules have been printed and distributed to different departments. For awareness

	<p>generation, they are distributing these copies at different levels.</p> <p>4. Awareness campaign at village, tehsil and district level as scheduled to be completed by 31st July, 2008.</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Uttaranchal	No response
West Bengal	<p>1. Nodal Officer has been appointed.</p> <p>2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels and FRCs have also been set up except in 3 subdivisions of Darjeeling district, 6 FRCs in Jalpaiguri district and 2 FRCs in Siliguri subdivision due to political disturbance. A few FRCs in Paschim Medinipur, Bankua and Purulia districts could not be set up on account of devastating floods in those areas. The meeting of the SLMC is due to be held in the 2nd week of July, 2008.</p> <p>3. Imparting of training has started at Gram Sabha and District level. Arrangements have been made for the training of the officials and members of different committee members. Three Pilot Training Programmes for PRI Officials and members of DLCs and SDLCs have been organized in Presidency, Burdwan and Jalpaiguri Divisions.</p> <p>4. Translation of the Act and the Rules has been completed.</p> <p>5. Awareness programme has been started and is going on in a large scale.</p> <p>6. So far, 20 claims have been received, 7 verified and 5 recommended by Gram Sabha to SDLC. The District Magistrates have been directed to start inviting claims and process them.</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>

A & N Islands	No response
Daman & Diu	No response
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nodal Officer has been appointed. 2. State Government has constituted various Committees at State level, District level and Sub-Divisional level. 3. Imparting of training has started. 4. Translation of the Act and the Rules has been completed. 5. Awareness programme has been started and is going on. <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>
Lakshadweep	<p>The UT Administration has intimated, vide letter dated 6.2.2008, that there are no terrestrial forests and no forest tribes or traditional forest dwellers in Lakshadweep .</p> <p>Monthly progress report for the month of August, 2008 not received.</p> <p>Web-site not being populated.</p>

Annexure-III

Statement of claims and distribution of title deeds under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of ForestRights) Act, 2006

Sl No	State	Claims Received	Title deeds distributed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,95,000	2800 (approx.) ready
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		
3.	Assam		
4.	Bihar		
5.	Chhattisgarh	2,50,000	15,000
6.	Goa		
7.	Gujarat		
8.	Himachal Pradesh		
9.	J & K		
10.	Jharkhand		
11.	Karnataka		
12.	Kerala		
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2,53,000	5000 (approx.)
14.	Maharashtra		
15.	Manipur		
16.	Meghalaya		
17.	Mizoram		
18.	Nagaland		
19.	Orissa		
20.	Rajasthan	34,370	883 ready

21.	Sikkim		
22.	Tamil Nadu		
23.	Tripura		
24.	Uttar Pradesh		
25.	Uttaranchal		
26.	West Bengal		
27.	A & N Islands		
28.	Daman & Diu		
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		
30.	Lakshadweep		

Action Taken Report on the actionable points for the States and Central Ministries for implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 approved in the meeting held in Prime Minister's Office on 21.1.2008

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Ministry of Tribal Affairs

1. States/UTs have been addressed on 25.2.2008 to furnish State-wise information/data, such as, status of formation of various Committees, translation of the Act and the rules into regional languages and arrangements made for their distribution to Gram Sabhas, Forest Rights Committees, steps taken for creation of awareness about the objectives, provisions and procedures under the Act and the Rules, arrangements made for the training of PRI officials, SDLC/DLC members by the State Nodal Agency at State, District and Sub-Divisional levels, etc.
2. NIC has been entrusted the job relating to preparation of a comprehensive web-based information system for implementation and monitoring of the Act. The said system is likely to be finalised and put in place shortly.
3. Action is being taken for setting up an Implementation and Coordination Cell in the Ministry.
4. A pamphlet (in English and Hindi) on the Act in a reader-friendly format for wide circulation to the States and other stakeholders has been prepared and sent to PIB, DAVP, AIR, Doordarshan and DFP for organizing publicity campaign.
5. A meeting of Secretaries of Tribal Development/Welfare Departments of the States was organized by the Ministry on 18-19 February 2008 on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act. In the said meeting, the progress of implementation of the Act as also the issues raised by the States were discussed.

6. A number of writ petitions have been filed in different High Courts/Supreme Court against the Act. Necessary action to defend these cases is being taken.

7. The States/UTs have been addressed on 25.2.2008 to initiate necessary action for conversion of all forest villages into revenue villages in a time bound manner and to keep the Ministry informed of the progress made in this regard. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Environment & Forests have also been requested to initiate action, after individual rights have been vested, for conversion of 2474 forest villages/habitations in 12 States into revenue villages and any other such habitations as per provisions of Section 3(1)(h) of the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

8. A Core Group consisting of representatives of Ministries of Panchayati Raj, Law & Justice and Environment & Forests as Members has been formed under the Chairmanship of Secretary(Tribal Affairs) for taking a view on queries and references from State Governments.

Ministry of Environment & Forests

The Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide their O.M. dated 14.3.2008, has suggested to this Ministry a procedure to be followed for seeking prior approval for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes for facilities managed by the Government under Section 3(2) of the Act. The same is under examination by the Ministry.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has addressed the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all States/UTs on 15.2.2008, suggesting that all the States may organize Gram Sabhas on 28.2.2006 during which the provisions of the Act and the rules and the roles and responsibilities of PRIs, Gram Sabhas and FRCs be explained.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Ministry of I&B had requested this Ministry on 24.1.2008 to provide software/publicity content to PIB, DAVP, AIR and Doordarshan for providing media support to the implementation of the Act. The same was provided to these media units on 8.2.2008. Subsequently the said publicity material was also provided to the Directorate of Field Publicity on 7.4.2008.

States/UTs

The action taken by the States/UTs is indicated in the statement annexed to this note.

Source: www.tribal.nic.in

N.B.: FRA Facilitating and Monitoring Cell has only re-produced this report for quick and easy reference. No Change in the contents of the original report as published by the Ministry of Tribal Welfare, Government of India.