

# Circular in regards to the clarification over the terminology of "Forestland"

Dzm-1309/PSSSD  
T/2/10

BY FAX

**GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA**  
**REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**  
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GE(GL)-S-23/09(Pt-I)- 5309 /R & DM. Dated 11.2.2010

**The Principal Secretary to**  
11 FEB 2010  
**S. T. & S. C. Deptt. \***

From  
Shri R.K. Sharma, IAS  
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government

To  
All Collectors.

Sub: **Grant of titles to eligible STs and other traditional forest dwellers under ST & OTFD(RFR) Act, 2006.**

Madam/Sir,  
I am directed to say that during the review on progress of grant of forest rights under RFR Act 2006 on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009 (Video Conferencing), it was noticed that some of the Collectors / Field level functionaries are not considering claim petitions relating to all types of forest land under the Act.

It may be noted that under section 2(d) of the aforesaid Act, forest land is defined as follows:

"forest land' means land of any description falling within any forest area and includes unclassified forests, un-demarcated forests, existing or deemed forests, protected forests, reserved forests, Sanctuaries and National Parks."

Therefore, the definition of forest land under the Act is wide enough to include all types of forests including that of the jungle kizam land found in the Revenue records.

Thus, claims relating to the following types of land are to be processed under the said Act and forest rights titles are to be issued in favour of the eligible STs and other traditional forest dwellers.

- i) revenue land where the remarks column mentions that it is Gramya Jungle / Patra Jungle etc.
- ii) revenue land where the kizam is mentioned as Forest.

M. Upadhyay  
of  
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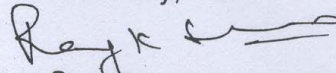
LRGE Letters

- iii) any forest land recorded in favour of Forest and Environment Department or Revenue & DM Department which has been mentioned in the District Level Committee report which formed the basis for the affidavit filed by the State Govt. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in connection with W.P(C) No.202 /1995 -T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad- Vrs-Union of India and others during 1997.

It is therefore, requested that immediate necessary action may be taken for processing and disposing of the claims of the eligible STs and other traditional forest dwellers in respect of the types of forest lands mentioned above under the said Act.

All concerned field level functionaries may be intimated accordingly.

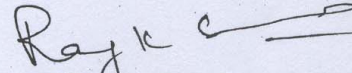
Yours faithfully,



Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government

Memo No. 5310 R & DM., Dated 11.2.10

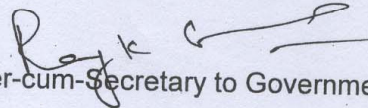
Copy forwarded to Secretary, Board of Revenue, Orissa, Cuttack/  
All RDCs for information and necessary action.



Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government

Memo No. 5311 / R & DM., Dated 11.2.10

Copy forwarded to Principal Secretary to Govt., ST & SC  
Development Deptt/ Principal Secretary to Govt., Forest and Environment  
Deptt. for information and necessary action.



Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government