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Lok Sangathan Manch releases manifesto

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KORAPUT: Koraput Zilla Lok Sangathan Manch (KZLSM), a joint forum of 14 grassroots level people's organisations, fighting for their rights on land, water and forests in Koraput district released "people's manifesto" for the 2009 elections at Tribal Museum here on Wednesday. Political parties and candidates over the years come up with their own manifestos. But very little attention was given to the basic issues of the people in their manifestos, forum convener Sukuram Gadanga said.

While 83 per cent of the total population in Koraput district lived below the poverty line with more than 70 per cent of land being under the possession of the government, people have very little choice to grow. This further led to a large-scale migration to other parts of the country in search of jobs, he added. While asking the parties and the candidates contesting this year's general election to take steps for uplifting the disadvantaged people from their present awful condition, the forum further demanded to include issues like completion of land survey in the district and providing pattas in the name of those who had been cultivating for years as a matter of concern during their election campaigning. The forum would share the points in its manifesto with leaders of political parties on April 10, Mr. Sukuram said.

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