

The Statesman

Be Better Informed

[Orissa Plus] —————

Tribals take to roads to protect forest rights

;Statesman News Service

BHUBANESWAR, 3 AUG: As part of the nationwide agitation called by the Campaign For Survival and Dignity, a national platform of tribal and forest dwellers' organisation, to protest the alleged attempt to sabotage the Forest Rights Act, 2006; hundreds of tribals from different districts of the state thronged the capital city and staged a demonstration here today.

Representatives of many people's organisation like Orissa Jan Adhikar Morcha, Adivashi Kranti Sangathan, Kalahandi Mahila Sangha and Adivashi Ekata Sangha participated in huge numbers in the agitation.

"Though the passage of the Forest Rights Act in December 2006, was a historic step forward for the struggle against the autocratic, brutal and repressive rule of colonial laws, it is not just enough to overturn a century of oppression. Today, the fight continues for a new order in the forests ~ one built around democracy in stead of bureaucracy ~ around the people rather than the officials; and around the forests and their citizens rather than the corporate and the capital," said Mr Nikunja Bhutia, convenor, Orissa Jan Adhikar Morcha.

The prime demands of the agitators included a complete halt of the forest department interference, exclusion of rights holder and violation of people's right under the Forest Rights Act; recognition of the tribals' and other forest dwellers' right and power to protect and control the forest resources and a complete check on forest destruction.

They later submitted memoranda addressed to the governor, chief minister and chief secretary.

Discussion on this Orissa Plus item

Disclaimer: These are Internet generated discussion threads for which the The Statesman has no responsibility.

No discussions on this item

Other Orissa Plus

[**Paikamal rape case: Juel dares CM**](#)

[**BIT ties up with US firm**](#)

[**Tribals attack Vedanta team**](#)

[**Ragging: Student flees school**](#)

[**Former Maoist regrets surrender**](#)

[**Prisoners want to study**](#)

[**Hilsa back on diners' menu in state**](#)

[**Law students' association launched at KIIT**](#)

[**Micro-finance lacks manpower**](#)

[**BJD ridicules EVM allegation**](#)

[**Wildlife team checks Similipal**](#)

[**Nalco CMD confirmed**](#)

[**'Biscuit Bandits' strike again**](#)