

# Ensuring Land Rights for Tribal Communities

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**Replying to the un-starred questions of Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka**, the Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Durgadas Uikey informed lok sabha today that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, being the Nodal Ministry for administering the legislative matters of “Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Recognition of Forest Rights Act 2006” (in short FRA), has been issuing directions and guidelines from time to time on various aspects to ensure proper implementation of the Act. As per FRA and Rules made thereunder, the State Governments are responsible for implementation of various provisions of the Act and is being implemented in 20 States and 1 UT.

FRA provides safeguards against forced eviction. Section 4(5) of FRA provides that Save as otherwise provided, no member of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dwellers shall be evicted or removed from the forest land under his occupation till the recognition and verification procedure is complete. There is a provision of petition by aggrieved persons to SDLC and DLC [Section 6(2) and 6(4) of FRA]. Further, the State Level Monitoring Committee under the Chair of Chief Secretary is to meet at least once in three months to monitor the process of recognition, verification and vesting of forest rights, consider and address field level problems.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs monitors the Monthly Progress Reports submitted by the States/UTs. As reported by States/UTs, cumulatively till 31st May 2025, **a total of 51,23,104 claims have been filed at Gram Sabha Level**, comprising 49,11,495 individual and 2,11,609 community claims. Out of which a total of 25,11,375 (49.02%) titles were distributed, comprising 23,89,670 individual and 1,21,705 community titles. And **18,62,056 (36.34%) claims have been rejected**, comprising 18,09,017 individual and 53,039 community claims. State wise details of claims filed at Gram Sabha Level (Individual and Community), Title distributed and claims rejected are at **Annexure**. The details of number of claims (individual and community) filed at Gram Sabha Level under FRA and the total number of claims rejected since 2020, month wise and State/UT-wise are available at this Ministry’s website- on FRA- MPR- <https://tribal.nic.in/FRA.aspx>.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken following steps to ensure that eligible tribal families receive individual and community titles and that their habitat and customary rights remain protected and prevent wrongful evictions and expedite settlement process:

MoTA has been issuing directions and guidelines from time to time on various aspects to ensure proper implementation of the Act. Further review meetings are regularly being held from time to time with the State Tribal Welfare Department and concerned authorities. DC/DMs have been advised to dispose of all pending FRA Claims in time.

Grievances /representations received in the Ministry regarding violation of FRA are forwarded to the State / UTs concerned, to ensure that legitimate claimants are not denied their forest rights.

MoTA has been providing financial support to the districts under 'DhartiAabaJanjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan' (DA-JGUA)’ for setting up dedicated FRA cells at the State and district/subdivision levels, for a period of two years to facilitate the settlement process for pending claims (both community and individual), ensure timely convening of Sub-Divisional Level Committees (SDLC), District Level Committees (DLC), and other related bodies. MoTA has also issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Setting up of FRA Cells. The ministry is urging states to prepare an FRA Atlas to map the potential forest areas which can be considered under FRA and undertake capacity building of all stakeholders. Further, Ministry has been providing financial support to the State Tribal Welfare Department for development and maintenance of the state-specific FRA portal (which includes dedicated server, cost of software, hardware, security audit, digital mapping of land records and other operational costs) under DA JGUA.

## Annexure

| S .<br>No. | States                 | No. of Claims received<br>upto 31.05.2025 |                |               | No. of Titles Distributed<br>upto 31.05.2025 |                |               | Claims Rejected<br>31.05.2025 |                |     |
|------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-----|
|            |                        | Individu<br>al                            | Comm u<br>nity | Total         | Individu<br>al                               | Comm u<br>nity | Total         | Individu<br>al                | Comm u<br>nity | Tot |
| 1          | A n d h r a<br>Pradesh | 285,098                                   | 3,294          | 288,392       | 226,651                                      | 1,822          | 228,473       | 56940                         | 1470           | 584 |
| 2          | Assam                  | 148,965                                   | 6,046          | 155,011       | 57,325                                       | 1,477          | 58,802        | NA/NR                         | NA/NR          | NA  |
| 3          | Bihar                  | 4,696                                     | 0              | 4,696         | 191                                          | 0              | 191           | 4496                          | 0              | 449 |
| 4          | Chhattisgar<br>h       | 890,220                                   | 57,259         | 947,479       | 481,432                                      | 52,636         | 534,068       | 403129                        | 3658           | 406 |
| 5          | Goa                    | 9,757                                     | 379            | 10,136        | 856                                          | 15             | 871           | 438                           | 9              | 447 |
| 6          | Gujarat                | 183,055                                   | 7,187          | 190,242       | 98,732                                       | 4,792          | 103,524       | 0                             | 2331           | 233 |
| 7          | Himachal<br>Pradesh    | 4,883                                     | 683            | 5,566         | 662                                          | 146            | 808           | 52                            | 2              | 54  |
| 8          | Jharkhand              | 107,032                                   | 3,724          | 110,756       | 59,866                                       | 2,104          | 61,970        | 26370                         | 1737           | 281 |
| 9          | Karnataka              | 288,549                                   | 5,940          | 294,489       | 14,981                                       | 1,345          | 16,326        | 249060                        | 4209           | 253 |
| 10         | Kerala                 | 44,455                                    | 1,014          | 45,469        | 29,422                                       | 282            | 29,704        | 12539                         | 296            | 128 |
| 11         | M a d h y a<br>Pradesh | 585,326                                   | 42,187         | 627,513       | 266,901                                      | 27,976         | 294,877       | 310216                        | 12191          | 322 |
| 12         | Maharashtr<br>a        | 397,897                                   | 11,259         | 409,156       | 199,667                                      | 8,668          | 208,335       | 170487                        | 2144           | 172 |
| 13         | Odisha                 | 701,148                                   | 35,024         | 736,172       | 462,067                                      | 8,832          | 470,899       | 144104                        | 532            | 144 |
| 14         | Rajasthan              | 113,162                                   | 5,213          | 118,375       | 49,215                                       | 2,551          | 51,766        | 63466                         | 2455           | 659 |
| 15         | Tamil Nadu             | 33,119                                    | 1,548          | 34,667        | 15,442                                       | 1,066          | 16,508        | 12293                         | 418            | 127 |
| 16         | Telangana              | 651,822                                   | 3,427          | 655,249       | 230,735                                      | 721            | 231,456       | 92744                         | 1682           | 944 |
| 17         | Tripura                | 200,557                                   | 164            | 200,721       | 127,931                                      | 101            | 128,032       | 68785                         | 63             | 688 |
| 18         | U t t a r<br>Pradesh   | 92,972                                    | 1,194          | 94,166        | 22,537                                       | 893            | 23,430        | 70435                         | 301            | 707 |
| 19         | Uttarakhand            | 3,587                                     | 3,091          | 6,678         | 184                                          | 1              | 185           | 3403                          | 3090           | 649 |
| 20         | W e s t<br>Bengal      | 131,962                                   | 10,119         | 142,081       | 44,444                                       | 686            | 45,130        | 87333                         | 9254           | 965 |
| 21         | Jammu &<br>Kashmir     | 33,233                                    | 12,857         | 46,090        | 429                                          | 5,591          | 6,020         | 32727                         | 7197           | 399 |
| TOTAL      |                        | 4,911,49<br>5                             | 211,609        | 5,123,10<br>4 | 2,389,67<br>0                                | 121,705        | 2,511,37<br>5 | 1809017                       | 53039          | 186 |

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