



Guidelines F. No. 15-4/2010-NTCA (Part-III) circulated by the National Tiger Conservation Authority to all Chief Wildlife Wardens of Tiger Reserve States on 28th November, 2011. At para 6, page 12 of the said Addl. Guidelines it is stated that —

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"In case of voluntary relocation also, the rights of people should," be recognized and settled before relocation".

- 23. There is thus a real and imminent danger of losing large areas of our valuable forests as well as the Protected Areas which will be permanently destroyed and occupied by ineligible claimants. The forests and the national parks and sanctuaries are repositories of genetic diversity of the country and are also the source of hundreds of streams and rivers and their critical catchment areas which have to be preserved to protect the ecological, water and agriculture security of the country. The Applicant has a Fundamental Right under Article 21 as well a Fundamental Duty under Article 51 A (g) "to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures". On the other hand the Respondent the States under Article 48A is duty bound under the Constitution to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.
- 24. In view of seriousness and the magnitude of the problem, the extent of forest land involved and severe adverse impact on forests and Protected Areas of the country, it has become necessary for this

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