

imagery) and lists with area of each plot and provide them to the FRCs and Gram Sabhas;

- g. The FRCs and Gram Sabhas can then consider the evidence from these maps and lists, together with other evidences, while deciding these claims, including determining the area to be approved.
- h. For identification of CFR areas, State Government of Odisha has piloted a process in the Mayurbhanj District by using GIS based technology with the help of the following information:
 - Villages having Forest Land within its revenue boundary
 - Villages having no Forest Land within its revenue boundary
 - Villages located in fringe of Reserved Forests land coming under control of State Forest Department
 - Un-surveyed habitations may also be included
- i. Similar method may be adopted by other states based on various Government Records such as Census, 2011 Data, the State level Economic and Statistical surveys, Forest Survey of India, etc
- j. The State Governments can seek support from BISAG, Dept. of Science and Technology, Government of Gujarat and National Resource Centre, Tribal Research Institute, Bhubaneswar for training of officials, FRCs and community volunteers with respect to use of technology. States can also seek support from the State Remote Sensing Centres for this process.
- k. Since maps or geo referenced images can be procured easily and freely/ or at nominal cost, the State Governments need to proactively take up this activity and complete the process of assessment and review of rejected claims in light of the use of technology within a period of two months.

7. These issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully



(Roopak Chaudhuri)

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