

No. 19020/02/2019-FRA Government of India Ministry of Tribal Affairs

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Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 Dated: 21.06.2019

Dated: 2

То

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries All State Governments. (except J&K)

DBUHW)

Acto)

Subject: -Information on Suo-moto review of rejected case under Forest Rights Act, 2006 in connection with W.P. (C) No. 109/2008 & 50/2008 in Supreme Court of India.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Tribal Affairs to discuss with concerned State Governments officials, various provisions of Forest Rights Act, 2006 and Rules thereunder for effective implementation of the order given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court 28.02.2019 in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 50/2008 & 109/2008 filed by Wildlife Trust of India. In the said meeting, it was inter-alia mentioned that:-

"In view of the limited time available for filing affidavit before the Supreme Court, States may undertake Suo-moto review of rejected cases as more efficient method of ensuring justice to genuine claimants rather than waiting for or expecting all claimants whose cases have been rejected to appeal a petition. This is specially relevant when rejection along with reasons thereof, have not been conveyed to the claimants, in writing. However, the timeline given by Hon'ble Supreme Court has to be adhered to."

- 2. In this connection, a letter of even number dated 26.03.2019 was also issued which was duly referenced with all previous letters sent by this Ministry to State Governments in connection with suo-moto review of rejected cases.
- 3. In the review meeting held on 18.06.2019 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (TA) with State Governments in New Delhi, many of the States indicated regarding steps taken by them for carrying out suo-moto reviews.
- 4. It is requested that complete details regarding the suo-moto review carried out in your State may be shared with this Ministry.

Ittan Kuman

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