

Secretary further advised that whatever status of information received/ technical expertise should be placed before Hon'ble SC and FSI should also tell the constraints in obtaining information and not having enough data for the requisite analysis regarding rejected claims under FRA.

9. The important points highlighted by Secretary, TA during the course of presentations by States, are as follows: -

- In the affidavits to be filed by the states, states should focus on highlighting FRA in a positive manner giving the correct position of FRA to the effect that FRA is for increasing green cover, ensure conservation of forest and not for depletion of forest. Further, misconception that forest rights are being given to high and mighty should be removed as it is the tribals and OTFDs who are poor, benefitting from this Act.
- After giving CFR and IFR, Maharashtra state has studied three to four of such cases and it has been found that forest cover has been increased after implementation of FRA and it should be placed before the Hon'ble as a corroborative document.
- All rejected cases do not lead to eviction – it should be emphasised in the affidavit.
- Chief Secretaries and Political Authorities must be apprised of the number of eviction cases on rejection.
- All states should report to /provide requisite information to FSI called for by them.
- States who do not have enough information based on which FSI can readily prepare the satellite data on rejected claims, should communicate to FSI.