

been notified by the Department of Forests and Environment, Meghalaya. Further, Village Employment Council (VECs) are being proposed to be treated as Gram Sabha to serve the purpose of Section 2 (g) of the FRA, 2006.

**Presentation by Mizoram-**

The State Government of Mizoram apprised that being a Sixth Schedule state, nearly 100% of the population of Mizoram are Scheduled Tribe and is sharing common ownership of non-reserved forest land under the jurisdiction of every village. Hence, the issue of deprivation or rejection of rights never arise till date as forest ownership rights was recognized and vested in the hands of the community of every village since time immemorial. Since no claims of rights have ever been received till date, hence the State Government felt necessary to revoke the implementation of the Act since the Act has little or no relevance/applicability to the context of Mizoram. Affidavit dated 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 for Writ Petition (C) No.109 of 2008 furnished by Secretary, Social Welfare Department Government of Mizoram had clearly affirmed that there is no rejection of claims for forest right in Mizoram due to NIL receipt of Claims Accordingly, detailed Affidavit will be filed by the state of Mizoram.

**Presentation by Nagaland:**

The State has informed that in the State of Nagaland, FRA, 2006 is not applicable in view of the provisions of Article 371 A of the Constitution which gives special status to the State of Nagaland with regard to the rights of people over land and its resources. The inhabitants of the State are predominantly tribal with distinct linguistic, culture, tradition, customs and socio- political characteristics and also the land and forest belongs to the private individuals, clans and community in the villages and the land holding and resources therein governed by traditional and