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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

I.A. No. OF 2019

I.N.

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 109 OF 2008

IN THE MATTER OF:

Wildlife First & Ors.

..... Petitioners

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

..... Respondents

I.A. No. /2019: Application for Directions

PAPER-BOOK

(For Index See Inside)

ADVOCATE FOR THE PETITIONERS P. K. MANOHAR

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APPLICATION FOR DIRECTIONS

To

The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India

And His Companion Justices of the

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

The Humble Application of

The petitioners abovenamed

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

1. The above petition filed under Article 32 of the Constitution of India challenges the constitutional validity of the

Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Rights Act".

2. That this Hon'ble Court vide order dated 28.2.2019 directed the States and Union Territories to file affidavits stating the reasons for the rejection of claims and as to whether the procedures prescribed under the Forest Rights Act and the Rules framed thereunder have been followed. In response to the said order, the States and Union Territories have filed their respective affidavits. In a number of affidavits, the Chief Secretaries have stated that, pursuant to this Hon'ble Courts order dated 28.2.2019, the State Governments have issued directions to reconsider/review to all the rejected claims. It has also been stated in the said affidavits that the process of review will take about 6 months to 2 years. The states have prayed for more time to complete the process for recognition of forest rights.

3. That under Section 11 of the Forest Rights Act, the Ministry of the Central Government dealing with Tribal Affairs is the Nodal Agency for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act. The State Governments through their State Level

Monitoring Committee's constituted under Section 6 (7) of the Forest Rights Act, are required to monitor the process of verification and vesting of forest rights under the Forest Rights Act and the Rules. They are also required to furnish quarterly reports in the prescribed format to the Nodal Agency.

4. The Nodal Agency has been publishing monthly / quarterly updates on the website of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, showing the state-wise status of implementation of the Forest Rights Act. The statements published by the Nodal Ministry shows that all the States have:

- i) appointed nodal Officer;
- ii) formed Committees i.e. SDLC, DLC and SLMC;
- iii) translated the Forest Rights Act and the Rules in regional languages;
- iv) conducted awareness of the Act and the Rules;
- v) trained officials; and
- vi) constituted Forest Rights Committees.

The said statement further shows the total number of claims filed before the Gram Sabha, claims recommended to the Sub SDLC, claims recommended to the DLC, claims approved by

the DLC, titles distributed, forest land in Ha.), and number of claims rejected.

5. The petitioners have downloaded statements from the aforementioned status reports for the period 2015 to 2019. The statements show that 17,08,459 claims have been rejected by the DLC. The decision of the DLC on the record of forest rights is final and binding under section 6(6) of the Forest Rights Act. True copies of the following statements from the Status Reports published by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the period ending 31.12.2015, 30.06.2016, 30.11.2017, 31.05.2018, 31.09.2018 and 31.03.2019 downloaded from the official website are annexed hereto and marked as **ANNEXURE-A1 to ANNEXURE-A6.**

6. The petitioners have prepared the following chart based on actual figures taken from the aforementioned status reports on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act of the years 2015 to 2019, published by the Nodal Agency:

Year (as on)	Ind. Claims received (A)	Approved by DLC (B)	Ind. Titles distributed (C)	Area in Acres / Ha Individual Titles (D)	Rejected Claims (E)
31.10.2015	42,91,472	Not available	16,67,852	62,85,591 / 25,43,692	Not available
30.6.2016	40,72,161	Not available	16,35,469	56,59,394 / 22,90,279	Not available
30.11.2017	40,39,054	Not available	17,60,869	41,22,590 / 16,68,356	Not available
31.5.2018	40,54,296	25,60,900	17,99,146	42,10,626 / 17,03,983	18,89,616
30.09.2018	40,73,503	16,34,961	18,18,121	46,64,948 / 18,87,840	18,88,066
31.3.2019	40,89,035	17,21,139	18,87,894	41,33,879 / 16,72,928	17,08,459

The scrutiny of the above figures show that:

- i) Even though titles granted / distributed to the individual claimants has increased by 2.2 lakhs from 16.67 lakhs to 18.87 lakhs, the area over which the rights have been granted has reduced from 25.43 lakh Ha. (62.85 lakh acres) in the year 2015 to 16.72 lakh Ha. (41.33 lakh acres) in the year 2019 i.e. by 8.71 lakh Ha. (21.52 lakh acres), which is inexplicable;
- ii) The figure of total Individual claims received has reduced from 42.91 lakh in October, 2015 to 40.89 lakh in

March 2019 i.e. a reduction of 2.02 lakh claims which is not possible;

iii) Although titles to individuals can be granted only after the District Level Committee (DLC) approves the claims prepares the record of right, which is final. Therefore the number of titles granted to individuals cannot exceed the number of approved claims. As on 30th September 2018 the titles granted to individual claimants was 18.18 lakhs whereas the claims finalised by the DLC is only 16.34 lakhs. Similarly, for the period 31.3.2019 the DLC approved claims are 17.21 lakhs whereas the title distributed are 18.87 lakhs.

From the above it is seen that the information and figures provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are unreliable and suffer from serious irreconcilable discrepancies giving rise to the apprehension which the petitioners have been expressing all along, that the Forest Rights Act is being implemented in a lackadaisical manner. It is for this very reason that the

Petitioners had filed I.A. No. 5 & 6 in January, 2014, wherein it was prayed that an Independent Committee of Experts or the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) be appointed to

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examine the implantation of the Forest Rights Act, in particular the procedure adopted for identification of genuine claims at the first instance in three tribal dominated states.

7. It is submitted that as per the Forest Rights Act, the Gram Sabha (GS) invites, examines and processes all the claims and thereafter passes a resolution approving or rejecting the claims. The resolutions passed by the GS's are forwarded to the Sub-Divisional Level Committee (SDLC). Persons aggrieved by the resolution of the GSs can file petitions against the rejection of their claims to the SDLC. The SDLC examines the resolutions received by it from the Gram Sabha and also hears petitions from the aggrieved persons whose claims are rejected by the GS. Thereafter the SDLC prepares the record of the forest rights and forwards it to the District Level Committee (DLC).

8. The DLC considers and finally approves the record of forest rights prepared by the SDLC. It also decides petitions filed by persons aggrieved by the decision of the SDLC after giving sufficient opportunity to such person to present his case. The decision of the DLC on the record of Forest Rights is made final and binding under section 6(6) of the Forest Rights Act.

The Act does not provide for any power of review either to the DLC or the State Level Committee.

9. The petitioners respectfully submit that the State Governments nor any officer / authority under it have any authority or powers to issue directing to initiate *suomoto* review of the final orders of the DLC. It is settled law that a quasi-judicial authority cannot review its own order, unless the power of review is expressly conferred on it by the statute under which it derives its jurisdiction. The State Level Monitoring Committee of the State Government cannot do indirectly what is prohibited by law.

10. There are innumerable cases where the Gram Sabhas are continuing to receive fresh claims under the erroneous belief that the filing of claims is open-ended and that there is no time limit for accept such claims. This would be totally illegal and contrary to rule 11 of the Forest Rights Rule which clearly states that the claims shall be made within a period of 3 months from the date the Gram Sabha calling for claims. Such period can be extended for a further period of 3 months by the Gram Sabha only after recording the reasons for seeking such extension, in writing. Therefore, claims seeking forest rights

cannot be filed and accepted by the Gram Sabha after the expiry of the said period of 3 months and the further extension of 3 months. It is submitted that the acceptance of fresh claims has become a never ending process which is taking a heavy toll on the forest wealth of the country. Fresh claims are being filed by new claimants who continue to encroach and occupy new areas of forest years after the prescribed cut of date of 13.12.2005 has passed.

11. It may be pertinent to mention that though the process of granting forest rights under the Forest Rights Act has been going on since 2008, not a single Critical Wildlife Habitat to create inviolate areas for wildlife conservation in the National Parks and Sanctuaries has been notified under section 4(2) of Forest Rights Act. Consequently, the habitat and the wildlife including the endangered species in such Protected Areas continue to suffer.

12. The petitioners have not filed any other petition seeking directions as prayed for herein below.

PRAYERS

It is therefore respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may be graciously pleased to:

- i) direct that the State Government, the State Level Monitoring Committee or any other authority cannot direct *suomoto* review of the rejected claims after the District Level Committee has taken a final decision and have recorded the forest rights;
- ii) direct the Gram Sabhas not to entertain fresh claims for grant of forest rights beyond the period of 90 days and the additional period 90 days in violation of the provisions of Rule 11 (1) (a) of the Forest Rights Rules;
- iii) direct the respondent States / Union Territories and the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change, Union of India to initiate and complete expeditiously the process to notify all the Critical Wildlife Habitats in the National Parks and

Sanctuaries in accordance with the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006;

- iv) pass such other and further orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper under the facts and circumstances of the case.

Dated: 21.8.2019

Drawn and filed by

P.K. MANOHAR

Advocate for the petitioners

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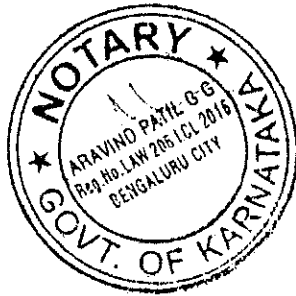
... RESPONDENTS

AFFIDAVIT

I, Praveen Bhargav son of Late V.S. Bhargav, aged about 55 years, residing at Bengaluru Karnataka do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows;

1. I am a trustee of the 1st petitioner trust and as such I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case. I am competent to swear this affidavit.
2. I have read and understood the contents of the accompanying application for directions and I say that the contents thereof are true and correct to my knowledge and belief.
3. I say that the documents annexed and marked as Annexures to this application are true and correct copies of their respective original documents.

Dated this the 20th day of August, 2019



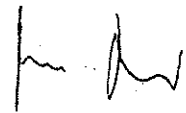
20 AUG 2019

DEPONENT

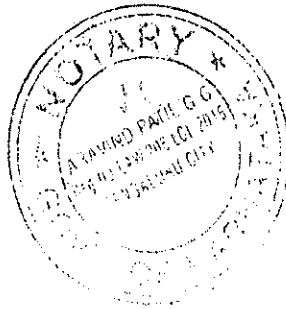
VERIFICATION

I the Deponent above named do hereby solemnly verify and state that the contents of the above affidavit having paras 1 to 3 are true and correct to my knowledge and nothing material has been concealed or suppressed therefrom.

Dated this the day of August, 2019.



DEPONENT



SWORN TO BEFORE ME
Aravind Patil G.G.
ARAVIND PATIL G.G. B.A., LL.B
ADVOCATE & NOTARY
12th Main, Near Old Sub Register Office
4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 018

26 AUG 2019

(ii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community), as on 31.10.2015, in major States, is indicated below:

A-1

States	No. of Claims received			No. of Titles Distributed			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
Andhra Pradesh	400,053	10,959	411,012	167,263	2,107	169,370	1,456,542.00		1,456,542.00
Arunachal Pradesh			0			0			0.00
Assam	126,718	5,193	131,911	35,407	860	36,267	77,609.17		77,609.17
Bihar	8,022		8,022	222		222			0.00
Chhattisgarh	850,364		850,364	347,789		347,789	741,318.22		741,318.22
Goa			0			0			0.00
Gujarat	182,869	7,228	190,097	72,970	3,875	76,845	109,548.00	1,081,583.00	1,191,131.00
Himachal Pradesh	5,409	283	5,692	238	108	346	0.35		0.35
Jharkhand	80,819	2,734	83,553	41,691	1,434	43,125	87,989.80		87,989.80
Karnataka	366,040	6,208	372,248	8,159	144	8,303	11,166.00	26,274.79	37,440.79
Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599		24,599	33,018.12		33,018.12
Madhya Pradesh	561,588	40,913	602,501	194,312	21,830	216,142	2,008,609.38		2,008,609.38
Maharashtra	346,017	7,152	353,169	105,856	3,436	109,292	231,563.30	863,478.72	1,095,042.02
Manipur			0			0			0.00
Meghalaya			0			0			0.00
Mizoram			0			0			0.00
Nagaland			0			0			0.00
Odisha	602,154	7,754	614,805	349,100	2,910	354,100	550,406.22	109,391.46	730,069.72
Rajasthan	69,121	654	69,775	34,956	69	35,025	52,451.05	482.58	52,933.63
Sikkim			0			0			0.00
Tamil Nadu	18,420	3,361	21,781	3,723		3,723			0.00
Telangana	211,698	3,672	215,370	99,486	744	100,230	329,571.00	503,082.00	832,653.00
Tripura	191,376	277	191,653	122,528	55	122,583	437,862.20	91.17	437,953.38
Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	139,027.52		139,027.52
Uttarakhand	182		182			0			0.00
West Bengal	131,962	10,119	142,081	41,841	558	42,457	18,908.25		18,908.25
A & N Islands			0			0			0.00
Daman & Diu			0			0			0.00
Dadar & Nagar Haveli			0			0			0.00
Total	4,291,472	109,026	4,405,395	1,667,852	38,973	1,708,973	6,285,591	2,584,384	8,940,246.34

(ii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community), as on 30.06.2016, in major States, is indicated below:

States	No. of Claims received upto 30.06.2016			No. of Titles Distributed upto 30.06.2016			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)			
	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	
Andhra Pradesh	1,50,345	4,493	1,54,838	83,874	1,319	85,193	1,98,633.00	4,34,355.00	6,32,988.00	
Assam	1,26,718	5,193	1,31,911	35,407	860	36,267	77,609.17		77,609.17	
Bihar	8,022		- 8,022	222		222			0.00	
Chhattisgarh	8,60,364		8,60,364	3,47,789		3,47,789	7,41,318.22		7,41,318.22	
Gujarat	1,82,869	7,228	1,90,097	73,163	3,875	77,038	1,10,768.00	10,81,583.00	11,92,351.00	
Himachal Pradesh	5,409	283	5,692	238	108	346	0.35		0.35	
Jharkhand	85,973	2,926	88,899	46,772	1,546	48,318	97,830.69		97,830.69	
Karnataka	3,66,040	6,208	3,72,248	8,159	144	8,303	11,166.00	26,274.79	37,440.79	
Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599		24,599	33,018.12		33,018.12	
Madhya Pradesh	5,71,441	41,235	6,12,676	2,05,843	24,694	2,30,537	21,10,991.87		21,10,991.87	
Maharashtra	3,46,653	8,953	3,55,606	1,06,063	4,187	1,10,250	2,31,421.21	13,92,644.78	16,24,065.99	
Odisha	6,12,864	13,233	6,26,097	3,78,675	5,205	3,83,880	5,80,040.92	3,35,354.27	9,15,395.19	
Rajasthan	70,515	685	71,200	35,759	69	35,828	54,356.89	482.58	54,839.47	
Telangana	2,11,973	3,769	2,15,742	99,486	761	1,00,247	8,18,090.52	12,74,327.90	20,92,418.42	
Tripura	1,93,751	277	1,94,028	1,24,541	55	1,24,596	4,34,119.30	91.17	4,34,210.48	
Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	1,39,625.46		1,39,625.46	
West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	43,444	785	44,229	20,404.60		20,404.60	
Total	40,72,161	1,10,482	41,82,643	16,35,469	44,451	16,79,920	56,59,394	45,45,113	1,02,04,507.82	

(iii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community), as on 30.11.2017, in major States, is indicated below:

AB

S. No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 30.11.2017			No. of Titles Distributed upto 30.11.2017			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)			
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,69,153	4,726	1,73,879	87,861	1,428	89,289	2,07,829.00	4,51,408.00	6,59,237.00	
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA	NA	NA	
3	Bihar	8,022	0	8,022	121	0	121	NA	0.00	NA	
4	Chhattisgarh	8,52,530	27,548	8,80,078	3,86,206	14,161	4,00,367	8,25,272.61	16,34,025.82	24,59,298.43	
5	Goa	9,758	372	10,130	17	8	25	0.00	5.66	5.66	
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	7,187	1,90,056	81,178	3,516	84,694	1,27,068.32	11,61,350.87	12,88,419.20	
7	Himachal Pradesh	591	68	659	53	7	60	1.06	4,670.28	4,671.34	
8	Jharkhand	99,224	3,286	1,02,510	54,458	1,723	56,181	98,265.22	45,503.71	1,43,768.93	
5	Karnataka	2,98,795	5,741	3,04,536	12,421	628	13,049	16,436.60	26,465.31	42,901.91	
10	Kerala	36,146	1,395	37,535	24,599	NA	24,599	33,018.12	0.00	33,018.12	
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,76,745	39,419	6,16,064	2,20,741	27,275	2,48,016	7,93,416.82	13,20,987.36	21,14,404.18	
12	Maharashtra	3,52,950	11,408	3,64,358	1,06,898	5,748	1,12,646	5,77,026.20	44,35,944.77	50,12,970.97	
13	Odisha	6,05,528	13,062	6,18,590	4,11,082	5,964	4,17,046	6,11,833.36	3,28,728.77	9,40,562.14	
14	Rajasthan	73,455	700	74,155	37,239	88	37,327	56,735.77	497.28	57,233.06	
15	Tamil Nadu	18,420	3,361	21,781	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16	Telangana	18,3,107	3,427	1,86,534	93,494	721	94,125	3,00,092.00	4,54,055.00	7,54,147.00	
17	Tripura	1,98,238	277	1,98,515	1,25,020	55	1,25,075	4,35,726.57	91.16	4,35,817.74	
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	18,854.46	1,20,802.06	1,39,656.53	
19	Uttarakhand	182	0	182	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,444	686	45,130	21,014.27	572.03	21,586.29	
	TOTAL	40,39,054	1,39,266	41,78,320	17,60,869	64,328	18,25,197	41,22,590	99,85,108	141,07,698.48	

(ii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (Individual and community), as on 31.05.2018, in major States, is indicated below:

S. No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 31.05.2018			No. of Titles Distributed upto 31.05.2018			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,70,437	4,043	1,74,480	91,758	1,372	93,130	2,24,262	4,50,380	6,74,642
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA	NA	NA
3	Bihar	8,022	0	8,022	121	0	121	NA	NA	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	8,56,150	31,515	8,87,665	3,98,181	18,178	4,16,359	8,36,502	18,36,959	26,73,461
5	Goa	9,758	372	10,130	17	8	25	29	6	35
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	7,187	1,90,056	83,699	3,516	87,215	1,29,572	11,61,351	12,90,923
7	Himachal Pradesh	2,071	170	2,241	129	7	136	6	4,671	4,677
8	Jharkhand	1,05,363	3,667	1,09,030	58,053	2,090	60,143	1,02,918	99,782	2,02,700
9	Karnataka	2,75,446	5,903	2,81,349	14,667	1,406	16,073	20,814	28,156	48,970
10	Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599	NA	24,599	33,018	NA	33,018
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,77,483	39,618	6,17,101	2,22,211	27,283	2,49,494	8,03,919	13,20,994	21,24,913
12	Maharashtra	3,52,950	11,408	3,64,358	1,06,898	5,748	1,12,646	5,77,026	44,35,945	50,12,971
13	Odisha	6,09,219	13,712	6,22,931	4,17,550	6,460	4,24,010	6,20,178	3,41,572	9,61,750
14	Rajasthan	73,455	704	74,159	37,317	92	37,409	56,828	500	57,328
15	Tamil Nadu	34,302	803	35,105	3,797	225	4,022	5,417	0	5,417
16	Telangana	1,83,252	3,427	1,86,679	93,639	721	94,360	3,00,284	4,54,055	7,54,339
17	Tripura	2,00,358	277	2,00,635	1,27,029	55	1,27,084	4,59,985	91	4,60,076
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	18,854	1,20,802	1,39,656
19	Uttarakhand	3,574	3,091	6,665	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,444	686	45,130	21,014	572	21,586
	TOTAL	40,54,296	1,44,581	41,98,877	17,99,146	70,167	18,69,313	42,10,626	102,55,836	144,66,462

(ii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community), as on 30.09.2018, in major States, is indicated below:

S.No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 30.09.2018			No. of Titles Distributed upto 30.09.2018			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,77,446	4,065	1,81,511	96,117	1,374	97,491	5,88,441	11,20,962	17,09,403
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA	NA	NA
3	Bihar	8,022	0	8,022	121	0	121	NA	0	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	8,56,150	31,515	8,87,665	3,98,181	18,178	4,16,359	8,36,502	18,36,959	26,73,461
5	Goa	9,758	378	10,136	17	8	25	77	10	87
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	7,187	1,90,056	83,699	3,516	87,215	1,29,573	11,61,351	12,90,924
7	Himachal Pradesh	2,071	170	2,241	129	7	136	6	4,671	4,677
8	Jharkhand	1,05,363	3,667	1,09,030	58,053	2,090	60,143	1,02,918	99,782	2,02,700
9	Karnataka	2,75,446	5,903	2,81,349	14,667	1,406	16,073	20,813	28,156	48,969
10	Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599	NA	24,599	33,018	NA	33,018
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,78,024	39,911	6,17,935	2,23,985	27,649	2,51,634	8,05,994	13,32,730	21,38,124
12	Maharashtra	3,50,452	12,007	3,72,459	1,14,216	6,909	1,21,125	6,58,114	66,78,078	73,36,192
13	Odisha	6,12,415	13,712	6,26,127	4,22,384	6,467	4,28,851	6,26,744	3,42,572	9,69,316
14	Rajasthan	74,414	1,441	75,855	38,007	103	38,110	57,730	2,994	60,724
15	Tamil Nadu	34,302	803	35,105	3,797	225	4,022	5,417	0	5,417
16	Telangana	1,83,252	3,427	1,86,679	93,639	721	94,360	3,00,284	4,54,055	7,54,339
17	Tripura	2,00,358	277	2,00,635	1,27,029	55	1,27,084	4,60,049	91	4,60,140
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	18,854	1,20,802	1,39,656
19	Uttarakhand	3,574	3,091	6,665	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,444	686	45,130	21,014	572	21,586
	TOTAL	40,73,503	1,46,238	42,19,741	18,18,121	71,714	18,89,835	46,64,948	131,83,785	178,48,733

(ii) State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community), as on 31.03.2019, in major States, is indicated below:

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S. No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 31.03.2019			No. of Titles Distributed upto 31.03.2019			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,77,446	4,062	1,81,508	96,675	1,374	98,049	2,39,554	4,53,384	6,92,938
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA	NA	NA
3	Bihar	8,022	0	8,022	121	0	121	NA	0	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	9,58,682	31,558	8,90,240	4,01,251	21,967	4,23,218	8,43,100.69	20,38,146.15	28,81,246.84
5	Goa	9,758	378	10,136	17	8	25	76.60	10.25	86.86
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	7,187	1,90,056	83,699	3,516	87,215	1,29,571.61	11,61,351.49	12,90,923.10
7	Himachal Pradesh	2,071	170	2,241	129	7	136	5.96	4,670.56	4,676.52
8	Jharkhand	1,07,032	3,724	1,10,756	59,866	2,104	61,970	1,53,395.86	1,03,758.97	2,57,154.83
9	Karnataka	2,75,446	5,903	2,81,349	14,667	1,406	16,073	20,813.51	28,155.75	48,969.26
10	Kerala	36,140	1,395	37,535	24,599	NA	24,599	33,018.12	NA	33,018.12
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,82,927	42,048	6,24,975	2,26,313	27,962	2,54,275	8,12,345.19	14,65,013.16	22,77,358.35
12	Maharashtra	3,62,679	12,037	3,74,716	1,65,032	7,084	1,72,116	3,92,928.73	27,36,660.68	31,29,589.41
13	Odisha	6,17,935	13,826	6,31,761	4,30,212	6,564	4,36,776	6,42,542.12	2,35,205.91	8,77,748.02
14	Rajasthan	74,414	1,441	75,855	38,007	103	38,110	57,730.26	2,993.64	60,723.90
15	Tamil Nadu	32,983	1005	33,988	6,111	276	6,387	8607.26	0	8,607.26
16	Telangana	1,83,252	3,427	1,86,679	93,639	721	94,360	3,00,284	4,54,055	7,54,339
17	Tripura	2,00,358	277	2,00,635	1,27,931	55	1,27,985	4,60,049.15	91.16	4,60,140.33
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,520	1,124	93,644	17,712	843	18,555	18,854	1,20,802.06	1,39,656.06
19	Uttarakhand	3,574	3,091	6,665	144	01	145	0	0	0
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,444	686	45,130	21,014.27	572.03	21,586.29
	TOTAL	40,89,035	1,48,818	42,37,853	18,87,894	76,154	19,64,048	41,33,891.33	88,04,870.81	1,29,38,762.14