

<u>To</u>: Cc: Bcc:

Jairam Ramesh <jairam54@gmail.com> fracommittee@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [fracommittee] Re: scan letter of Kanti Lal Bhuria From:

Naresh Saxena <naresh.saxena@gmail.com> - Thursday 08/12/2010 04:54 AM

Sent by: fracommittee@yahoogroups.com

Dear Sri Jairam Ramesh,

This refers to your email of 5 August forwarding the letter of Hon'ble Minister (TA) Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria and endorsing his view on the current functioning of the FRA committee.

At the outset I say that this committee is not only of MoEF as incorrectly mentioned in the letter but has been jointly constituted by the MoEF and MOTA.

As per the TOR, the committee has been mandated (TOR 1) to study in detail the implementation of the Forest Rights Act including factors that are aiding and impeding its implementation, and (TOR 6) to extend full support to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in their efforts to enforce and implement the Forest Rights Act. From these two terms it is implicit that the suggestions made by the Committee, from time to time after preliminary findings, for streamlining the implementations to the MOTA is well within the mandate . This was also clarified in my mail of 2nd August addressed to you. In fact, suggestions of the committee members to the senior officials of the State including the Chief Secretary after the field visit for the improvement of the implementation process, have been very well received in most of the visited states.

Further, the three terms of TOR (2, 3 and 7) refer to the future management of forests once the FRA has been implemented, which includes the policy changes in future management of forestry sector, the role of forest dwellers in the forest management and the new role of the forest department vis-à-vis Gram Sabha in the forest conservation and regeneration. These three terms are fully dependent on the level of implementation of the FRA and can't be studied and analysed stand alone. For example, if the community forest rights are not properly implemented, as is the current scenario, the role of the forest dwellers in the forest management will be greatly reduced.

In view of the above it is clear that the committee has not over stepped its limit and is very well functioning with commitment to deliver the best keeping in mind the preamble of the FRA and the assigned TORs.

I will request you to kindly clarify the role and functioning of the committee to Hon'ble Minister (TA) as mentioned above to dispel his misconceptions.

Warm regards,

NC