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**GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF SCHEDULED TRIBES WELFARE AND
SCHEDULED CASTES WELFARE
MANTRALAYA, BHOPAL**

No. - 9-L/07/5/25

Bhopal, dated...15/2/08

To,

Shri Gautam Buddha Mukherji
Secretary Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shastri Bhawan
Government of India
New Delhi

Re: The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006- your discussions in Bhopal dt 5.2.2008.

Ref: DO letter No 17014/2007-PC&V(Vol.VI) dt Jan 25, 2008 and of even no dt Jan 11, 2008.

Dear Sir,

The Government of Madhya Pradesh has initiated prompt action with regard to The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

1. Instructions-

(a) The Chief Minister took a meeting of the Senior Officers of the Tribal Welfare and Forest Departments on 2nd of January 2008. He instructed that the Act must be implemented at the earliest. The Chief Secretary has also written to all the Collectors asking them to implement the Act and the Rules on priority.

(b) Detailed instructions have been issued to all the Collectors, regarding the implementation of the Act. They were also asked to send Master Trainers for training at Regional places so that they could go back and train the Nodal officers of Gram Sabhas. The Collectors were asked to ensure that Gram Sabhas were organized in all villages from January 26, 2008 onwards and Forest Rights Committees were elected. They were also directed to ensure that copies of Electoral rolls, Revenue and Forest department records and maps are being made available to the Gram Sabhas. The Collectors will also organize survey teams and assist the Gram Sabhas in the verification of claims preparation of and maps. A legal interpretation cell is being constituted at the State level to deal with the queries and questions related to the Act and the Rules.

