

Call for Inputs to Committee on Forest Rights Act

The Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have set up a joint committee to enquire into the status of implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, and to suggest ways in which policies and institutions need to be changed to enable implementation. The composition of the Committee and its Terms of Reference can be seen at <http://moef.nic.in/downloads/public-information/Reconstitute%20Committee.pdf>.

The Committee intends to do its work through widespread public engagement, including through consultations and hearings, workshops, and field visits.

With this announcement the Committee would like to invite inputs from local communities, civil society organizations, government agencies, researchers, and others who have information and observations regarding the implementation of the Act. Please note that it is not the mandate of the Committee to review the Act itself, but rather its implementation and all matters arising from this.

In particular, we invite case studies and information on ‘best practice’ initiatives where the Act is being properly implemented, as also ‘worst practice’ examples where its implementation is being hampered. As far as possible, please supplement your inputs with evidence, and full contact details so the Committee can get back to you for clarifications if need be.

A dedicated website is being set up for the Committee’s work, but meanwhile, pl. send inputs (in writing or electronically) to the following, or to any other member of the Committee:

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