

Let Justice Roll



NewsWatch on Livelihood, Food Security, Land Rights, Gender, Identity & Social Exclusion

About Us

Vision

"Where there is justice in the land, fields and forest every living being will dance and sing"



Mission

In the spirit of service and sacrifice of Christ, CNI-SBSS would like to accompany DBSS and its partners to engage with the reference communities, so that they will develop the capacity (skills and assets) to negotiate with the policy makers and to realize their rights and emerge as an alternative political force. To move towards this direction, communities would be sensitized socially, politically, economically and culturally to organize themselves and claim their rights over livelihood means while protecting their identity.

Our Resource Centres

CNI Resource Centre for Social Actions on Livelihood and Food Security, Agra

CNI Resource Centre for Social Actions on Land Rights and Dalit Studies, Pune

CNI Resource Centre for Social Actions on Tribal Identity and Indigenous Rights, Ranchi

CNI Resource Centre for Social Actions and Research, Kolkata

Contact Us

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News of the Fortnight

Forest Rights Act - 2006

In December 2006, Parliament passed the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. This historic legislation marks the first time in India's history that a law has been passed recognising the rights of forest communities.



The *Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006*, is a key piece of forest legislation passed in India on December 18, 2006. It has also been called the "Forest Rights Act", the "Tribal Rights Act", the "Tribal Bill", and the "Tribal Land Act." The law concerns the rights of forest dwelling communities to land and other resources, denied to them over decades as a result of the continuance of colonial forest laws in India.

The Act grants four types of rights:

1. Title rights - i.e. ownership - to land that is being cultivated by tribals or forest dwellers as on December 13, 2005, subject to a maximum of 4 hectares; ownership is only for land that is actually being cultivated by the concerned family as on that date, meaning that no new lands are granted;
2. Use rights - to minor forest produce (also including ownership), to grazing areas, to pastoralist routes, etc.;
3. Relief and development rights - to rehabilitation in case of illegal eviction or forced displacement and to basic amenities, subject to restrictions for forest protection;
4. Forest management rights - is to protect forests and wildlife.

What does the Forest Rights Act do?

1. Grants legal recognition to the rights of traditional forest dwelling communities, partially correcting the injustice caused by the forest laws.
2. Makes a beginning towards giving communities and the

Resources

Forest Rights Act 2006

The kind of rights forest dwellers get under this Act
The law recognises three types of rights: *Land Rights, Use Rights and Right to Protect and Conserve*

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Campaign for Survival and Dignity

With every passing day, violence and repression in the forests increases. Every day we hear of yet another place where the military, police, mafias, or the Forest department have attacked us, jailed us, evicted us or – more and more – simply killed our people.

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State wise implementation of FRA

There are three issues that come up in the majority of the States. Here's an explanation of the terms and the problems that are being referred to in various states of India.

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Forests and Tribals: Restoring Rights

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill 2006 (or the forest bill) was passed by Parliament in the winter session. An article from EPW.

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public a voice in forest and wildlife conservation.

Some points of struggle around the Forest Rights Act in January 2009

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NewsWatch is an electronic News Bulletin, a collection of previously published news and views from the print as well as the electronic media, transmitted by Synodical Board of Social Services (SBSS), a justice and development arm of the Church of India (CNI) to keep a watch on various issues related to people and communities and draw the attention and the greater participation of civil society organisations to bring change in the lives of people. Visit us at www.cnisbss.org

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