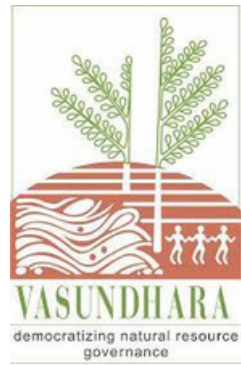


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IN THE LOOP



Vasundhara Newsletter, 21st February

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OVERVIEW :

- Formation of Producer Groups
- Introductory Meetings/ Orientations & Training Programmes
- Post Title Distribution CFR Management Meeting at Ranapur, Nayagarh
- Traditional Boundary Mapping Karadapada, Nayagarh
- Title Distribution at Daspala & Nagaon
- Distribution of Sewing & Pressing Machines
- Siali Leaf Collection at BanaBahini PG
- Market Linkages of Siali Leaves and Siali Leaf Plates
- BanaVikash PG & BanaRekha PG Interaction
- Forest Based Livelihoods
- Correction and arrangement of CR & CFR remanded block claims
- First EC meetings of "Mohok Sondhayni Mahasangh"
- Pali business in full swing at Jashipur
- Thematics Team Meeting at the State Head Office
- Republic Day Celebration
- Success Story Preparation in Keonjhar
- Field Trip in association with IIFM

Formation of Producer Groups

In the month of January, one producer group was formed and finalized as a part of Vasundhara's efforts to market NTFPs to facilitate a fair price to these communities.

The PGs were formed at Palkudar GP-Tileibani block,

The Producer Group has the potential for various NTFPs such as Mahua, Tamarind, Mahua, Kusum, Char, Karanj seed, Kusum seed, Harida, Baheda, etc.



Introductory Meetings, Orientation & Training Programmes



We have conducted a number of Introductory meetings, collective meetings for various MFP value addition projects, claim facilitation for FRC, CR, and CFRR, and collective building for forest-based livelihoods.

Training programs have also been conducted for the reformation of the FRC committee, support to primary groups, FRA orientation processes, VDVK Training Programme in presence of PA ITDA, S/O ITDA, LDA, and other governmental authorities.

Post Title Distribution CFR Management Meeting at Ranapur, Nayagarh

Vasundhara conducted a training program on CR/CFR Management for CR/CFR Titleholders in Ranapur, Nayagarh.

The Executive Director of Vasundhara, Y Giri Rao reiterated the fact that receiving the titles were the mere first step. Efforts and conservation endeavours must remain the same. More innovative management practices must be integrated to manage forests even better.



Screening of 'Sherni' in Kodalapalli

Vasundhara facilitated a screening of the film "Sherni" directed by Amit V. Masurkar, based on the quest of a Forest Officer in capturing a man-eater tiger, as she faces opposition from the authorities.

These activities are conducted with an aim of engaging the youth population in the village in discussions regarding their forest and also to encourage the spirit of ownership in among the young population in the village.

Traditional Boundary Mapping Karadapada, Nayagarh

Vasundhara has conducted the GIS mapping for identification of traditional boundaries of Medini Village, Karadapada block, Nayagarh. Vasundhara has extended complete support in this regard.

A majority of indigenous communities depend on forests for their survival. Forest Right Claims are essential to recognition of their own forest lands. The claim process is long one with complexities. It requires regular meetings, record keeping, and thorough following up with authorities. Mapping and demarcation of traditional boundaries is an essential step for recognition of forest rights.



Did You Know?



A man from pastolist community out for grazing his cattle in the grasslands of the forests in Nayagarh. They are called Jajabor Cheria (Nomadic cattle rearers) who move from one patch of land to another with their cattles. They are also primarily forest dependent as cattle grazing in the forest grasslands is their main source of livelihood.

Title Distribution at Daspala & Nagaon

In a historic event, 59 Gram Sabhas of 62 villages in blocks of Daspala and Nagaon, Nayagarh were granted their community rights CR and Community Forest Rights after years of struggle.

In Daspala, Nayagarh out of 47 villages, 31 have a mixed population of OTFDs and STs while the other 16 are tribal villages.

In Nagaon, 12 Gram Sabhas of 12 villages of the block received their Community Rights and Community Forest Rights over forests they have managed and conserved for generations. Mostly inhabited by forest dwellers, the communities are heavily dependent on these forests.



Distribution of Sewing & Pressing Machines

Vasundhara recently facilitated the purchase of sewing machines for Sal - Siali leaf plates which is an important source of livelihood for forest dependent communities in Orissa.

Sal - Siali leaf plates, made from Sal and Siali leaves, NTFPs collected by the local communities is a biodegradable alternative to plastic and thermacol plates which is a significant threat to the environment.



Our volunteer Moti Dhibar of BMS Union, Barkote can be seen sewing Siali leaf plates on the sewing machine delivered recently. Soon she will be training other community members to help them develop their skills.



Siali Leaf Collection at BanaBahini PG

Vasundhara's representative met with OC Dr Anil Mohapatra, Dr S.S Mishra of EBRC and ZSI and Dr Srivastava (Berhampur University) at EBRC office, Gopalpur, Ganjam for consultation on Biodiversity.

Market Linkages of Siali Leaves and Siali Leaf Plates

Vasundhara has been working on the market linkages for various MFPs. Recently we facilitated a trade of 8 Quital Siali leaves and 15,000 Siali Leaf Plates with a Trader in Rourkella.



BanaVikash PG & BanaRekha PG Interaction

The team leader of the Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Democratization, Sayani Chatterjee held an interaction session with the Producer Groups of BanaVikash & BanaRekha.

Various aspects were discussed such as plans for next year, bookkeeping, storage. Renovation of an old Church was discussed with an aim to turn it into a storage unit for the villagers.

They have requested for some financial assistance from Vasundhara for the mentioned developments. The PG has planned for trade of 6 MFPs.



Vasundhara recently facilitated a discussion with members of VDKV for the utilization of VDKV funds. The members intend to utilize the funds for machinery procurement and value-addition. The discussion took place at Surupa in BanaSita PG.

Vasundhara supervised and assisted in the Siali Leaf Collection at BanaBahini PG, Bamandagarh. The total members that participated in the process was 16 and the total quantity collected amounted to Eleven Thousand Rupees.



Correction and arrangement of 36 CR & CFR remanded block claims in Champa Block of Keonjhar

Correction and arrangement of 36 CR & CFR remanded back claim forms and the documents under Champua Sub Division was facilitated by Vasundhara with the help of the FRA Cell coordinator of Champua Tehasil and Champua Sub-Division.



Thematics Team Meeting at the State Head Office

Team meeting for thematics - Forest Rights and Sustainable Livelihoods was held in the State Office at Bhubaneswar on the 3rd - 4th January & 27th - 28th January.

The discussions were around the way forward for the teams and the modification in approaches.



First EC meetings of "Mohok Sondhayni Mahasangh"

The executive Committee of Mohok Sandhyani Mahasang met for the first time in the mentioned capacity. The discussion were on the following aspects, Objectives of the Union, Role and Responsibilities of the president, secretary and EC members, prospects Issues and challenges and planned for the achievement of the target.

Republic Day Celebration

Republic Day was celebrated on the State Office at Bhubaneswar and all other Field Resource Centers of the organization on the 26th of January, 2022.



Pali business in full swing at Jashipur

In Jashipur, the collection of Sal leaves is running in full swing. Till now 1450 bundles of sal leaves have been collected and 1130 bundles have been sold for Rs. 68-70/ bundle. The women collective are delighted to receive fair price for the products.

And now in 13 collectives, they have prepared the Annual business plan for the year 2022.

Success Story Preparation in association with DA Keonjhar & ITDA Keonjhar

Vasundhara facilitated Success Stories regarding the distribution of IFR titles to the forest dependent communities in the blocks of Champua & Banspal in the district of Keonjhar. The project was in association with the District Administration of Keonjhar and ITDA Keonjhar.



Field Trip in Association with IIFM

Vasundhara recently facilitated a field trip with the reputed forest management institution, Indian Institute of Forest Management. The aim of the trip was to acquaint the students with the forest landscapes in the Eastern part of the country and the

livelihood generation systems in the Development Arena. The students were taken to Ranapur, Betnoi, Rushikhulya, Bhitarkanika, and Nadankanan Zoo for the mentioned objective.



କନ୍ୟାଗତ ଜିଲ୍ଲା

୪୯ ଗ୍ରାମକୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର

କନ୍ୟାଗତ ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ ୪୯ ଗ୍ରାମକୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ପୂରା ଗାଁ ଏକାଠି

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ପୂରା ଗାଁ ଏକାଠି ଉପାଦାନ କରାଯାଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ସହ ସାଲିସ ନାହିଁ

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ସହ ସାଲିସ ନାହିଁ। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ମିଳିଲା ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଜମିର ଅଧିକାର

ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ମିଳିଲା ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଜମିର ଅଧିକାର। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

Forest Rights granted to tribes and OTFD?

The Govt informed Parliament in December that forest rights have been granted to 2 million forest dwellers. But NGOs are not convinced

RAJIA MUZAFFAR BHAT

A decade and a half after the Forest Rights Act (FRA) was passed by Parliament in 2006, a majority of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs) of the country are yet to receive entitlement under the law's legislation. Bhanushankar Jaiswal Nandan claims that after a study that just over 10% of forest dwelling STs (OTFDs) or OTFDs have been given entitlement under the Act in 172 lakh forest villages in the country.

The Act was meant to recognise and state rights over forest land to STs and OTFDs residing in forests for generations. The Parliament had conceded that rights on ancestral land and their habitat were not adequately recognised in the constitution. Inclusion of state forests resulting in historical injustices to dwellers.

In 2019, however, it was revealed in the Supreme Court that over two million claims were rejected, and virtually all state governments conceded in court that the claims were rejected without the process of law.

Sameer Patra, a Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MP said, "The Forest Rights Act (FRA) was passed in 2006. The question No. 2057 about the total FRA claims were finalized from March 2015 to forest dwellers over the past three years, seeking state-wise and year-wise details."

From the list furnished by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 4,14,000 people conferred rights to 1,20,000 villages. The list included 15 lakh STs and 6,600 Community Forest Rights

Final decision and land thus recognized under FRA cannot be sold or transferred.

Bihar, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh are reportedly the worst performing states. Bihar had given only 121 FRA claims, Uttarakhand only 107 FRA claims were finalized from March 2015 to August 31, 2021. Himachal Pradesh finalized only 161 individual claims and 16 Community claims.

In February 2019, the Supreme Court directed states to "identify, protect, and restore" forest lands over one million ST and other traditional forest dwellers from forest lands in 16 Indian states for "wildlife protection".

The order was criticized by forest rights activists, forest dwellers and

above all by the UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights, The Centre finally admitted before the Supreme Court that rejection of claims by state governments were illegal and requested the court to stay its execution under 141 Mandate of the Supreme Court stayed its own order to enforce forest dwellers.

Non-BJP states better performance: As per data provided in Parliament, non-BJP ruled states had performed better. Chhattisgarh ranked second in FRA implementation after BJP ruled Odisha.

The Rajasthan Bhupali MP said Congress Govt had issued 125 lakh FPR and 21,807 CFR claims till August 31, 2021.

Maharashtra had issued 173 lakh FPR and 2,084 CFR claims till August 31, 2021. The 27,376 community claims were notified by the previous Government but only 1,500 claims had been notified for 15 months.

Since then, between August 2020 and August 2021, the BJP Government in MP had issued only 17 CFR claims.

BJP ruled Tripura settled 12 lakh FPR and 55 CFR claims. West Bengal settled 11 lakh FPR and 1,000 community claims. In PM Modi's home state Odisha, only 50 lakh claims were notified the rights and 3007 CFR claims were notified.

The community rights conferred on two dozen sub-villages in Nagaland, Odisha, for the first time includes legal titles to collect and use firewood. The villages also have the right to collect, process, use and sell minor forest produce such as bamboo, honey and other forest products.

(Author is an independent writer & researcher based in Srinagar)

ରାଜ୍ୟ ଖବର

ବିଶ୍ୱ ବଜାରରେ ପହଞ୍ଚିବ ଆଦିବାସୀ କଳା କାରୀଗରୀ

ବିଶ୍ୱ ବଜାରରେ ପହଞ୍ଚିବ ଆଦିବାସୀ କଳା କାରୀଗରୀ। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ନୂଆଗାଁରେ ୧୧ ଗ୍ରାମକୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର

ନୂଆଗାଁରେ ୧୧ ଗ୍ରାମକୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ବାବୁଡ଼ିକ ଲୁହଣ ରାମଗଡ଼

ବାବୁଡ଼ିକ ଲୁହଣ ରାମଗଡ଼। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷାରେ ନାରୀଶକ୍ତି

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷାରେ ନାରୀଶକ୍ତି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

୧୫ ବର୍ଷ ଚଳୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ପାଲଟିଛି ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କ ଜୀବନ

୧୫ ବର୍ଷ ଚଳୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ପାଲଟିଛି ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କ ଜୀବନ। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଜଙ୍ଗଲରୁ ଜୀବିକାର ବାଟ ଶିଖୁଛନ୍ତି ନୂଆପଢ଼ି

ଜଙ୍ଗଲରୁ ଜୀବିକାର ବାଟ ଶିଖୁଛନ୍ତି ନୂଆପଢ଼ି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।

ଜଙ୍ଗଲରୁ ଜୀବିକାର ବାଟ ଶିଖୁଛନ୍ତି ନୂଆପଢ଼ି

ଜଙ୍ଗଲରୁ ଜୀବିକାର ବାଟ ଶିଖୁଛନ୍ତି ନୂଆପଢ଼ି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି। ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର ମିଳାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଉତ୍ସାହମୟ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଆୟତ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି।