



# FRA FACTSHEET OF ODISHA 2022





# FRA Factsheet of Odisha

**Jan, 2023**

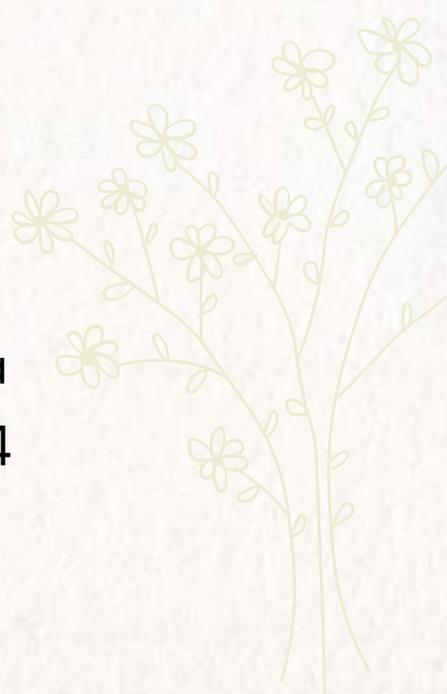


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# PREFACE

Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) is a landmark legislation to address the historical injustice done to forest-dwelling communities and an attempt to recognise and record their existing rights on forest land. The legislative intent of the Act is “to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land on forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations, but whose rights could not be recorded” and thus to undo a severe historical injustice.

The Act also has immense potential to democratise forest governance and provide livelihood security by recognising Community rights and Community Forest Resource Rights (CFR). Further, the Act has the ability to conserve forests and biodiversity, improve local livelihoods and help meet India’s international commitments to sustainable development goals and climate change mitigation.

The law has special significance for Odisha where 39.31%<sup>[1]</sup> of the land area is classified as legally recorded forests. The state is home to as many as 62 Scheduled Tribes who constitute over 22.8% of its population. Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs) in Odisha depend on forest lands for their livelihoods and survival.

It is estimated that forest rights in over 32,562<sup>[2]</sup> villages should be recognized under FRA, mainly through CFR and CR provisions, if the Act is implemented in letter and spirit. The estimated potential forest area over which forest rights can be recognized in Odisha is approx. 35,739 sq Km of which CFR rights can be recognized in 27,818 <sup>[3]</sup>Sq km and Individual Forest Rights in 7921<sup>[4]</sup> Sq Kms approximately.

The Government of Odisha has accorded high priority to implementing the Forest Rights Act, 2006. It has issued several guidelines, clarifications, and letters to the States to strengthen the law's implementation. Despite a progressive law, its implementation has not yet reached the desired potential for various reasons from lack of knowledge and capacity of communities and line department officials.

As of November 2022, 3393 Community Forest Resource titles have been distributed in the state. This indicates that of about 32,562 potential villages for community forest rights, only 10% of the villages have received the CFR titles so far. While there is an increase in recognition of Community Forest Rights, the implementation is uneven within the different regions of the State.

The document 'FRA FACTSHEET OF ODISHA 2022' published by Vasundhara is an attempt to compile the progress made by the State under different provisions of the law. Further, it also attempts to draw the attention of the State towards the gaps in the implementation of the areas where the State needs to prioritize to ensure effective implementation of the Act.

# Important Govt. Orders

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## **Re-constitution of Sub-Divisional and District Level Committee**

The three-tier Panchayati raj institutions election was held in February 2022. The ST and SC Development Department issued a letter to all the District Collectors on 31.3.2022 for the reconstitution of SDLC and DLCs. Accordingly, Zila Parishad of 30 districts has nominated SDLC and DLC members for their respective districts.



## **Re-constitution of Forest Rights Committees**

The ST and SC Development Department issued a circular on 27.4.2022 for the reconstitution of Forest Rights Committees, as most of the Committees were constituted in 2012, especially after amendments in Forest Rights Rules.



## **Clarification related payment of Compensation under RCTLAR&R Act, 2013:**

The Revenue and Disaster Management Department issued a circular on 12th May 2022 about compensating FRA Title Holder in case of diversion of such forest land for non-forestry purposes.



## **Re-constitution of State Level Monitoring Committee:**

The ST and SC Development Department reconstituted the SLMC on 21.9.2022 after the reconstitution of the Tribes Advisory Council of the State.



## **Guideline for incorporation of recognized forest rights in Forest Department Records:**

The Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department issued a comprehensive guideline on 2.11.2022 for incorporating forest rights recognized under the Act.

# Right to hold and live in Forest Land



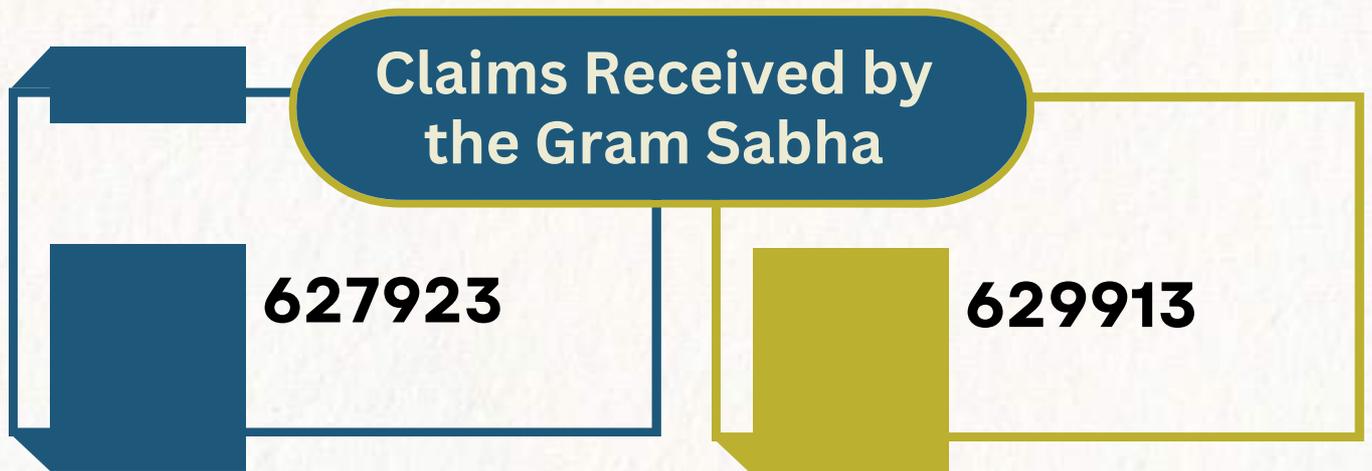
Jan - Nov  
**2022**

The Act promises to  
secure the right of  
forest-dwelling  
communities who  
have resided in the  
forest prior to 13 Dec,  
2005

# FACTSHEET

**Jan 2022**

**Nov 2022**



# FACTSHEET

**Jan 2022**

**Nov 2022**

**Titles Distributed**

**451778**

**454454**

**Extent of Area (ha)**

**269412**

**270186**

**RoR Correction**

**255545**

**295060**

# The Status



## Claims Received by the Gram Sabha

A total of 1990 new IFR claims have been received by the Gram Sabhas in 8 districts of Odisha. The highest number of IFR claims have been received in Sambalpur District (570), followed by Jajpur (524), Sundergarh (509), Gajapati (150), Mayurbhanj (98), Keonjhar (75), Nawarangpur (57) and Kendrapada (7).



## Approval of Claims by DLCs

The DLCs approved a total of 2953 IFR claims in 11 districts. The highest number of IFR claims approved in Jajpur District (951), followed by Sundergarh (658), Malkangiri (340), Mayurbhanj (317), Koraput (290), Gajapati (97), Nuapada (83), Keonjhar (78), Nawarangpur (57), Jharsuguda (50), and Sambalpur (32).



## Claims Rejected by DLCs

DLCs from 7 districts have rejected 21,178 IFR claims. The Highest number of IFR claims rejected in Nuapada (10710), followed by Sundergarh (2956), Cuttack (2826), Jharsuguda (1831), Koraput (1382), Kendrapada (1152), and Jajpur (321).



A total of 2676 IFR titles have been distributed in 12 districts of Odisha. The highest number of IFR titles have been distributed in Keonjhar District (462), followed by Sambalpur (439), Jajpur (352), Koraput (308), Rayagada (223), Balasore (197), Dhenkanal (164), Nuapada (83), Mayurbhanj (61), Nawarangpur (57), Jharsuguda (50), and Kalahandi (06). And the extent of the area recognized is 774 hectares of forest land.

# Community Forest Rights [CR]



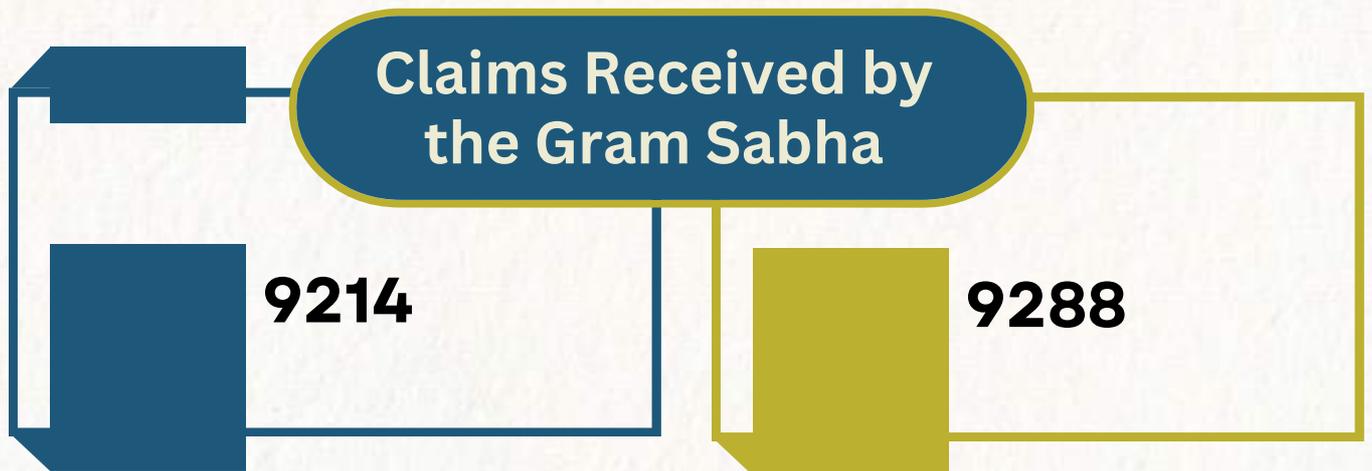
Jan - Nov  
**2022**

The Act promises to secure the traditional and customary rights of forest-dwelling communities on forests, including converting forest villages into revenue villages.

# FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

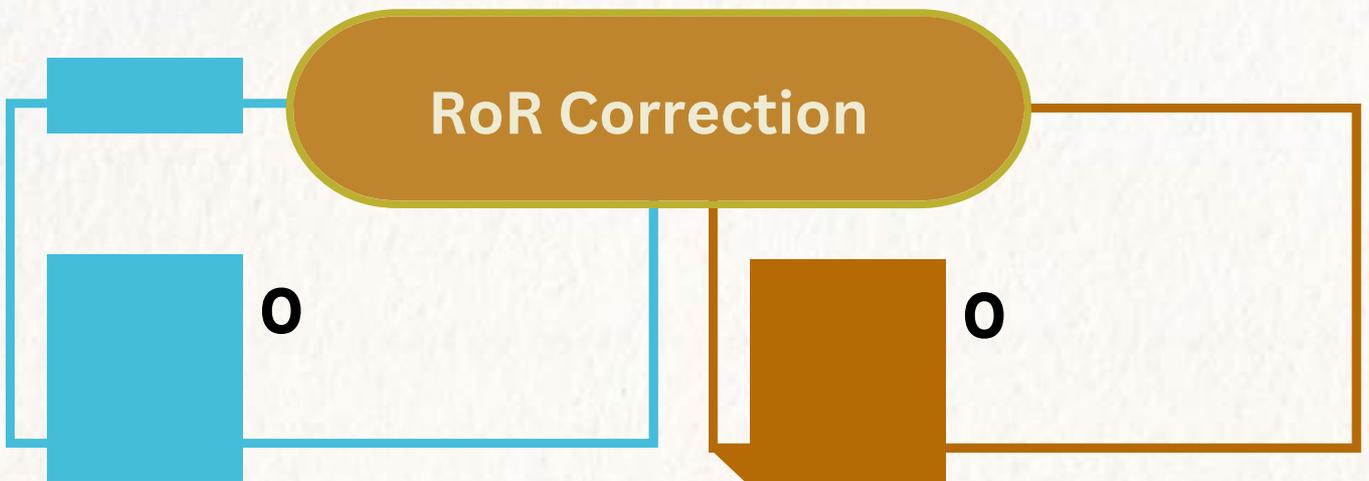
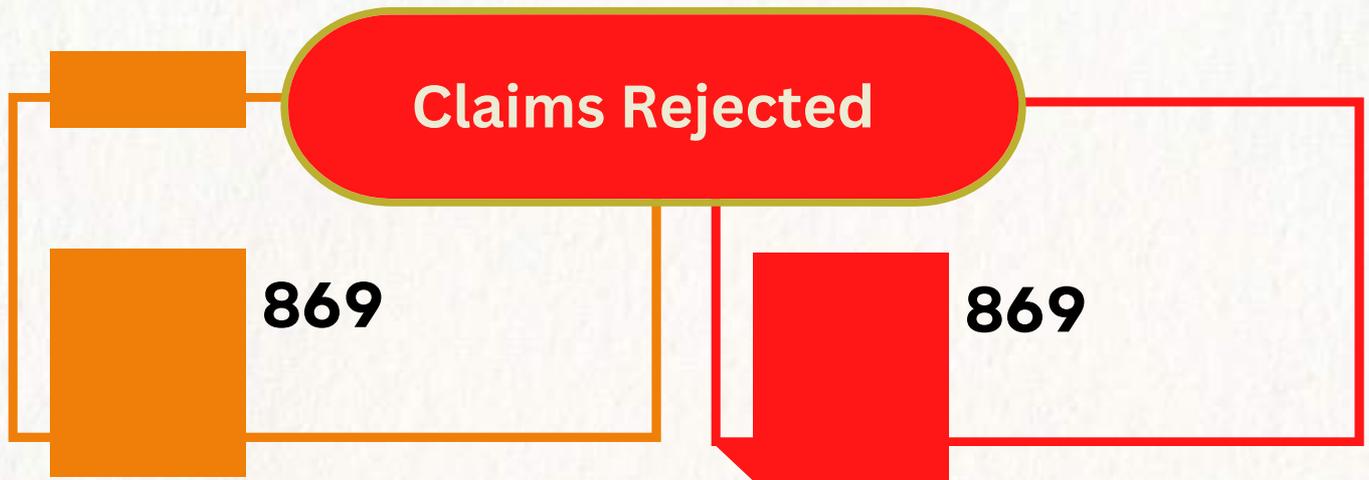
Nov 2022



# FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

Nov 2022



# The Status



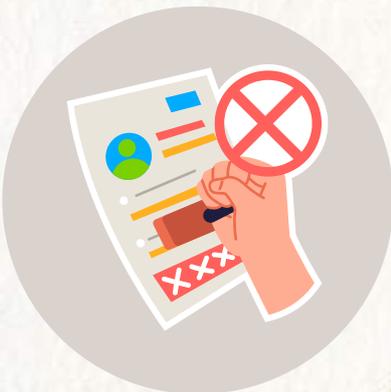
## Claims Received by the Gram Sabha

The Gram Sabhas have received 74 new Community Forest Rights claims in 1 district of Odisha out of 30. Malkangiri is the only district that has received mentioned claims. The total number of Community Rights Claims received till the end of Nov 2022 is 9288.



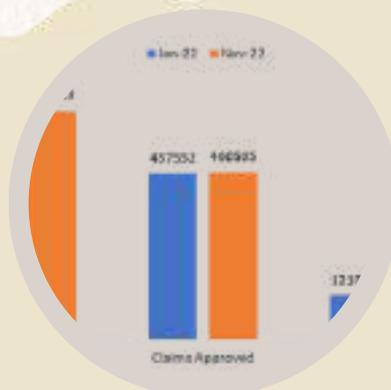
## Approval of Claims by DLCs

The DLCs of two districts have approved 61 claims –the highest number of CR claims approved in the Rayagada (49) and 12 in the Nuapada district. The total number of Community Rights Claims approved till the end of Nov 2022 is 5660, of which 2759 titles have been distributed.



## Claims Rejected

There has been no new rejection of Community Forest Rights claims during the period. However, 869 Community Forest Rights claims are rejected either at Gram Sabha or SDLC level before Jan 2022.



## Pendency of Claims

More than 30% of Community Forest Rights Claims are pending at various levels. 18 districts out of 30 haven't taken any steps to dispose of pending claims.

# Distribution of Titles



A total of 96 Community Forests Rights titles have been distributed during the period by three districts of Odisha. The highest number of titles were distributed in the Rayagada district (49), followed by Mayurbhanj (35) and Nuapada (12).

# Right over Community Forest Resources [CFR]



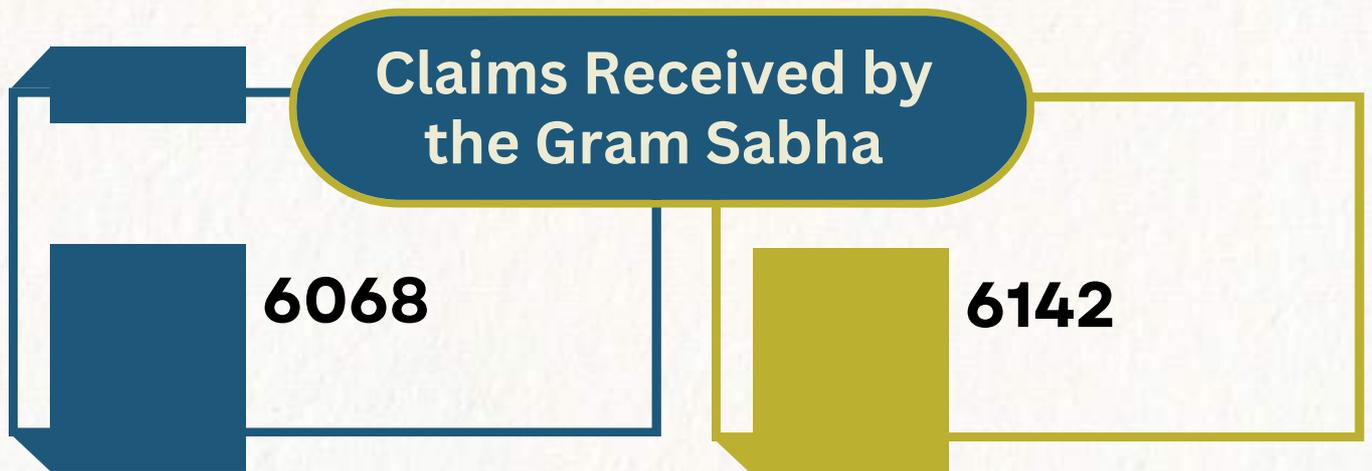
Jan - Nov  
**2022**

The Act confers the right to protect and manage community forest resources to the Gram sabhas.

# FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

Nov 2022



# FACTSHEET

**Jan 2022**

**Nov 2022**

**Claims Pending**

**1883**

**1909**

**Claims Rejected**

**135**

**135**

**Extent of Area (ac)**

**242191**

**257648**

# The Status



## Claims Received by the Gram Sabha

The Gram Sabhas have received 74 new Community Forest Rights claims in 1 district of Odisha out of 30. Malkangiri is the only district that has received mentioned claims.



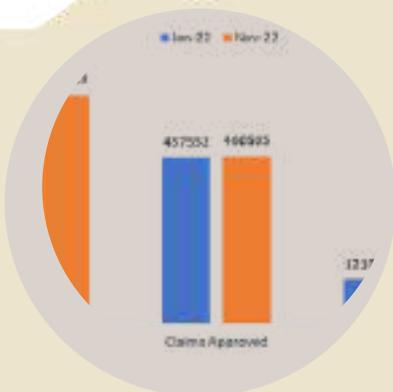
## Approval of Claims by DLCs

The DLC of Rayagada district has approved 48 CFR claims. The total number of CFR approved till the end of Nov 2022 is 4098, which is 13% of the potential villages.



## Claims Rejected

There was no new rejection of CFR claim during the period. However, 135 claims are either at Gram Sabha or SDLC level before Jan 2022.



## Pendency of Claims

More than 31% of Community Forest Rights Claims are pending at various levels. 18 districts out of 30 haven't taken any steps to dispose of pending claims.

# Distribution of Titles



**The District Administration of Rayagada and Mayurbhanj have distributed 48 titles and 35 respectively. .**

# Conversion of Forest Villages into Revenue Villages



Jan - Nov  
**2022**

The Act promises  
to convert all  
forest villages and  
settlements in  
forest land into  
Revenue Villages.

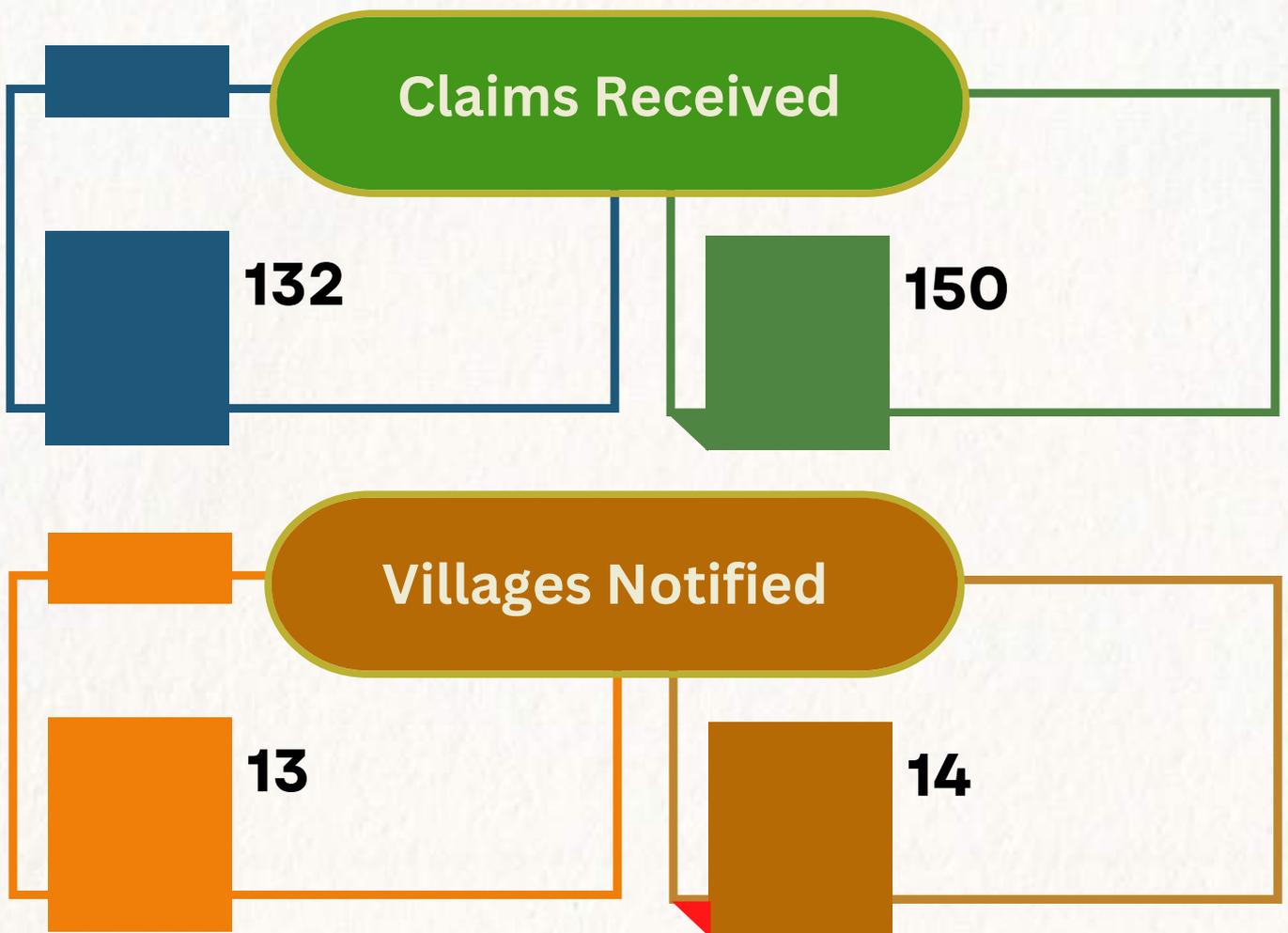
# FACTSHEET

## Total Number of Forest/ Unsurvey villages identified

**458**

Jan 2022

Nov 2022





411

980  
E6-0

BOARD OF REVENUE, ODISHA, CUTTACK

Notification No. VI- 07/2020- \_\_\_\_\_ /LR&S dated \_\_\_\_\_

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of powers conferred under Section 2(14) of OSS Act of 1958 and in pursuance of Section 3(1)(h) of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right )Act 2006, forest village Bhalutangar under Kankadahada Tahasil of Dhenkanal District is hereby declared as a Revenue Village.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Director

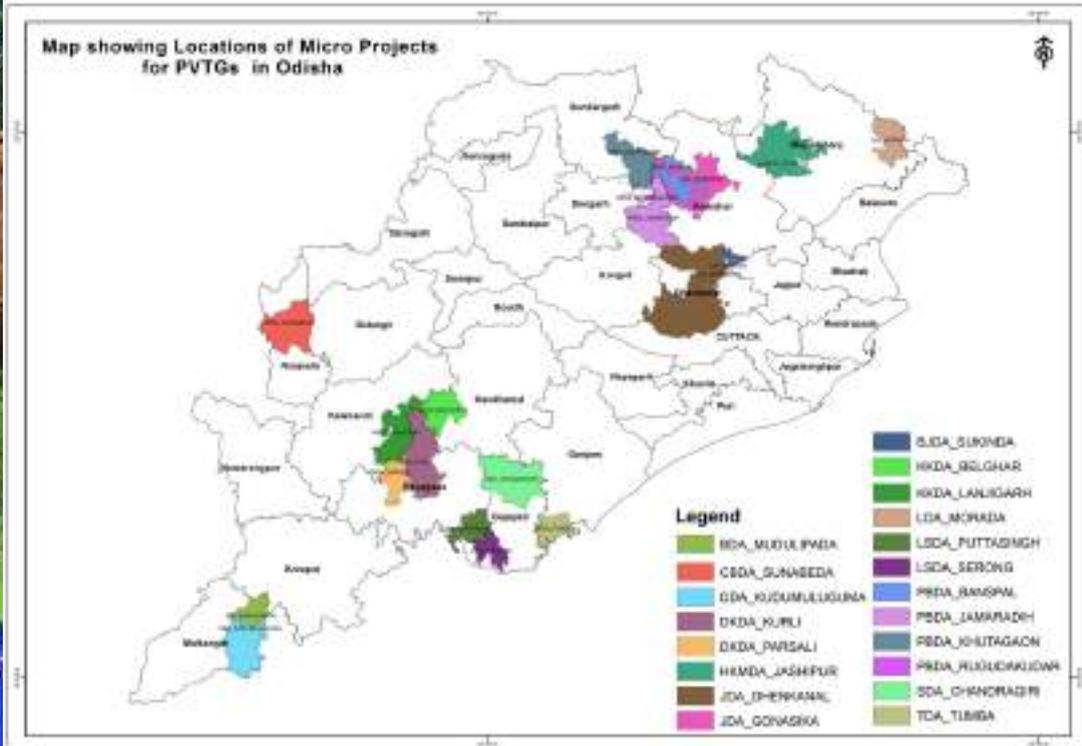
Land Record and Survey's

A total of 23 new claims have been received in 4 districts by respective DLCs, of which the highest number of claims were received in the Mayurbhanj district, followed by Sambalpur (2), Rayagada (2), and Kalahandi (1).

The Board of Revenue has notified ONE village as Revenue Village in the Dhenkanal District of Odisha.

So far, only 3% of identified forest villages have been notified as revenue villages.

# PVTGs & FRA



No. of PVTGs

**13**

No. of GPs

**285**

No. of Villages

**1659**

No. of HHs

**58254**

Population

**243234**

No. Micro-Projects

**20**



# IFR FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

Nov 2022

Claims Received by  
the Gram Sabha

22447

22447

Claims Approved by  
the DLCs

18553

18556

Titles Distributed

18553

18556

# IFR FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

Nov 2022

Extent of Area (ac)

31537

31541

Claims Rejected

NA

NA

Avg. Area of Recognition

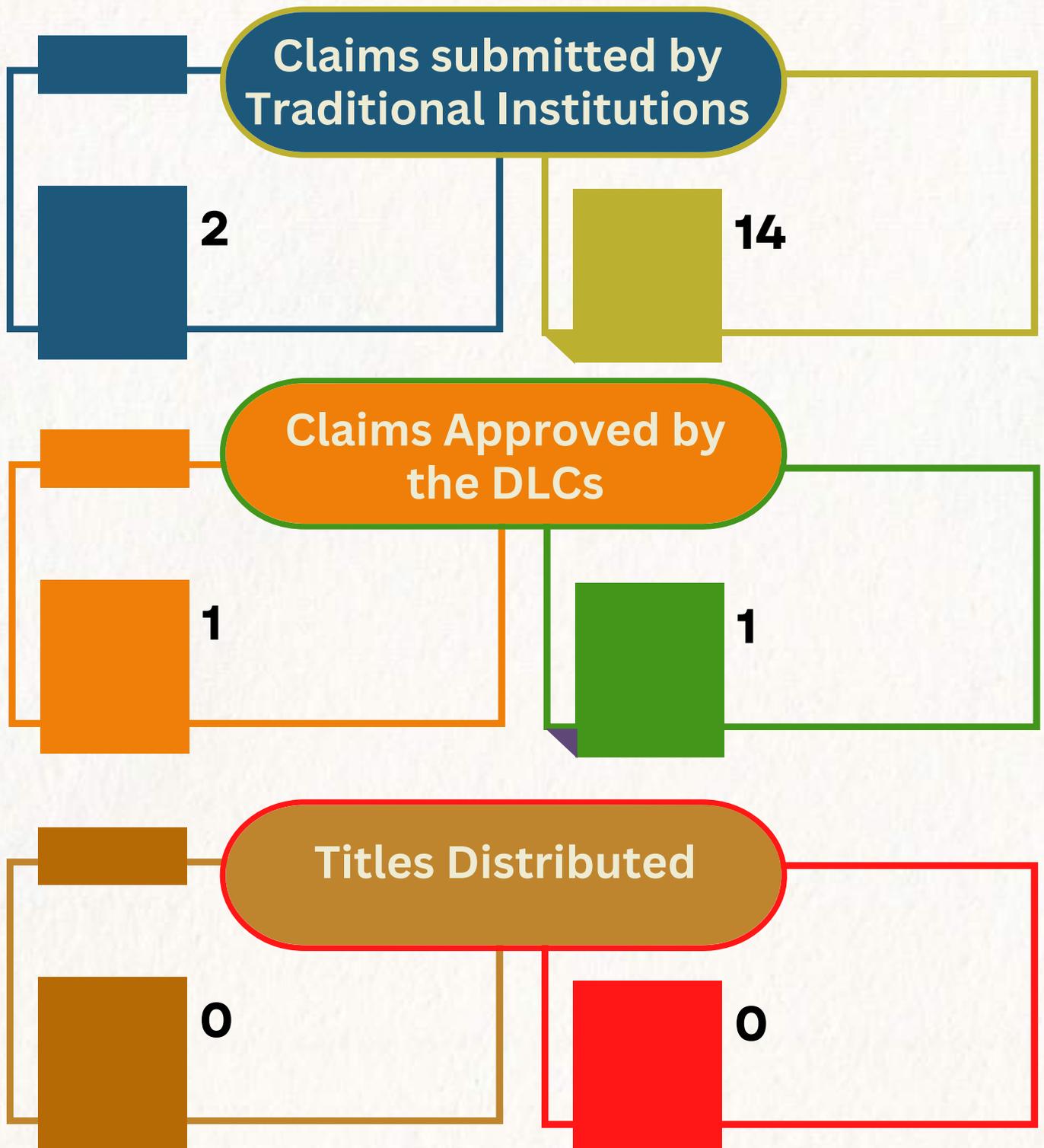
1.70

1.70

# Habitat Rights FACTSHEET

Jan 2022

Nov 2022



The SDLCs have received 14 claims from 9 PVTGs, most of which are pending with SDLCs.

# Convergence of various Programs and Schemes



Jan - Nov  
**2022**

The Act promises to enhance income of Forest Dwelling Communities through securing rights and biodiversity conservation.



## Voices From The Field



Since receiving rights over these forest lands, I have been able to develop farming systems to yield more crops.

Previously, it was not possible as I would have to do it undercover but now as I'm the owner of the land, it has become much easier.



<b>Schemes</b>	<b>Jan 2022</b>	<b>Nov 2022</b>
<b>Housing Schems</b>	<b>197376</b>	<b>199239</b>
Land Development	<b>83339</b>	<b>87997</b>
NHM	<b>9344</b>	<b>9422</b>
NBM	<b>936</b>	<b>936</b>
<b>Misc. Schemes</b>	<b>69891</b>	<b>72635</b>
Mo Pukhari	<b>4249</b>	<b>4316</b>



"We freely collect forest products from our forest areas and sell them in the market. Last year, we procured around 5.22 quintals of honey, 243 quintals Sal seed, and 611 bundles of Sal Leaf plates and earned about 6.87 lakh rupees. A few years back, it was impossible due to restrictions put forth by park authorities".

# Potential Untapped

Land under Occupation

Extent of Area Recognized

7129 Sq. kms



2702 sq kms

The extent of area recognized under the IFR constitutes only 38% of total forest land under occupation as per the "FRA Atlas of Odisha", published by the SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha.

Demarcation of Recognised Land

Incorporation of Forest Rights (RoR)

413008

295060

91% of IFR title holders land has been demarcated while 65% titles holders land has been incorporated in Revenue Records.

# ***Potential Untapped***

**Potential No. of villages  
for Community Forest  
Rights**

**35368**

**No. of Titles  
Distributed**

**4278**

**Titles of Community Forest Rights has  
been distributed in 12% of villages  
against potential**

**Community Forest Rights**

**Total Number of  
Forest/ Unsurvey  
villages identified**

**458**

**Number of Villages  
Notified**

**14**

**Only 3% of Forest Villages/ settlements in forest  
land has been notified as "Revenue Village" by  
the Board of Revenue, Govt. of Odisha.**

**Conversion Forest Village**

# ***Potential Untapped***

**Potential No. of villages  
for Community Forest  
Resources Rights**

**32153**

**No. of Titles  
Distributed**

**3428**

**Potential Area to be  
Recognized under  
Community Forest  
Resources Rights**

**23014 sq kms**

**Extent of Area  
Recognized**

**1043 sq kms**

**Community Forest Resources**

Less than 11% potential villages got title and the extent of area recognized under the CFR constitutes only 4.53% of potential area as per the "FRA Atlas of Odisha", published by the SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha.

# ***Tapping Potential***

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The ST and SC Development Department have accorded high priority to implementing the Forest Rights Act 2006 and have taken several steps to implement the Act effectively. Despite proactive efforts by the department, its implementation has not yet reached the desired potential for various reasons. Some of the key recommendations to the State are as follows:

## **Setting up PMU and dedicated human resources**

The Nodal department shall consider setting up a Process Management Unit for facilitating, tracking, and monitoring the implementation of the various provisions of the Act.

## **Revival of FRA Cells**

The Nodal department shall consider reviving the FRA Cells established to extend support to the Gram Sabhas and Nodal Officers.

# ***Tapping Potential***

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## **Tapping Potential of Youths**

The Nodal department shall consider involving local youths as "Jungle Adhikar Sathi" to extend support to the Gram Sabha for filling claims and convergence of various government programs and schemes.

## **Development of GP to District Level Action Plan**

The Nodal department shall develop action plans from GP to District to complete the process within a timebound period.

## **Wider Circulation of materials developed by the SCSTRTI**

The SCSTRTI has developed simplified materials like leaflets, posters, and audiovisuals on the Act and its rules. These materials must be circulated to the Gram Sabhas in the form of FRA Kit.

# ***Tapping Potential***

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## **Coordination in between the line departments**

The ST and SC Department shall consider developing Standard Operating Protocols for the line department officials, especially frontline officers, for better coordination and completion of the process.

## **Streamlining the MIS**

One of the significant problems that persist is the non-availability of information in one place. The ST and SC Department shall consider developing a robust online MIS system for the entry of information related to claim filling, approval, RoR Correction, and convergence of various programs and schemes.

## **Capacity Building of FRC members and frontline staffs**

The Department shall chalk out an action plan to enhance FRC members' knowledge base and frontline officials' knowledge.

# ***Tapping Potential***

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## **Coordination with NGOs, Peoples Forums and Traditional Institutions of tribal communities**

The ST and SC Development shall involve the NGOs, People Forums, Youth Clubs, and Traditional institutions, wherever possible, for extending support to the Gram Sabhas and frontline officers.

## **Constitution of Convergence Committees**

The ST and SC Development issued a comprehensive guideline on 12.04.2016 from the convergence of various programs and schemes. However, this guideline has never been implemented. The department shall consider implementing that guideline by forming District Level Convergence Committee.

## **Amendment in the State Laws**

The department shall consider constituting a committee of experts to identify the inconsistency within the State laws and take steps for suitable amendments in state laws.



## Sources of Information

- State of Forest Report-2019
- FRA Atlas of Odisha, 2020
- Forestland within revenue boundary which included DPF, UDPF, Other forest, DLC forest and Pvt. forest
- Wasteland Atlas of India, 2010, Pg 98 - 101
- Promise and Performance Report
- <https://stsc.odisha.gov.in/acts-policies-guidelines/scheduled-tribes-and-other-traditional-forest-dwellers>



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