

## राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय) (A Constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

फाइल. सं.NCST/DEV-167/MP/3/2021-ESDW

दिनांक: 12.07.2023

सेवा में,

कलेक्टर एवं जिला दंडाधिकारी जिला मंडला, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, सिविल लाइन्स, मंडला-481661, मध्य प्रदेश, ई-मेल: dmmandla@nic.in प्रमुख सचिव, जनजातीय कार्य विभाग, मध्य प्रदेश शासन, आयुक्त कार्यालय, आदिवासी विकास, भोपाल -462004,मध्य प्रदेश ई-मेल: pstwd@mp.gov.in

विषय: आदिवासी हितग्राहियों की फर्जी सूची बनाकर राशि गबन/भ्रष्टाचार/घोटाले के दोषियों पर एफ.आई.आर दर्ज कराने के सम्बन्ध में श्री पुनीत टंडन, साकेत नगर, भोपाल, मध्य प्रदेश का दिनांक 15.12.2021 का अभ्यावेदन।

महोदय/महोदया,

कृपया उपरोक्त विषय पर **दिनांक 14.06.2023 को अप्राह्न 03:00 बजे** आयोग के माननीय सदस्य महोदय की अध्यक्षता में होने वाली सिटिंग/सुनवाई का सन्दर्भ ग्रहण करें। उक्त सिटिंग का कार्यवृत इस पत्र के साथ संलग्न कर प्रेषित किया जा रहा है। आपसे अनुरोध है की सिटिंग में लिए गए निर्णयों एवं आयोग द्वारा दिए गए सुझावों पर कार्रवाई करते हुए कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट इस आयोग को **30 दिन के भीतर** भेजना सुनिश्चित करें।

संलग्न यथोपरि.

भवदीय,

(एच. आर. मीना) अनुसंधान अधिकारी

प्रतिलिपि प्रेषित:

श्री पुनीत टंडन, 9-A/406, साकेत नगर, भोपाल -462024, मध्य प्रदेश

रन.आई. सी. अनुभाग, आयोग की वैबसाइट पर अपलोड करने हेतु। National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

No. NCST/DEV-167/MP/3/2021-ESDW

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST on representation dated 28.11.2021 of Shri. Puneet Tandon, regarding registration of FIR against the culprits of misappropriation of funds/

corruption/ scam by making a fake list of tribal beneficiaries.

Date of the Sitting: 14.06.2023 (Wednesday) 03:00 PM

List of Participants: As per Annexure

The Commission received a representation from Shri. Puneet Tandon stating that huge amount of money sanctioned by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs ("MoTA") for Organic Farming Project to PVTGS and Tribes (2016-17) were embezzled by making fake lists of tribal beneficiaries in Madhya Pradesh. The Petitioner further stated that there are many irregularities in the lists of beneficiaries prepared for these purposes in various districts such as Mandla, Balaghat, Dindori, Anuppur, etc.

The Commission took up the matter seriously. It has been observed that the contents of the petition shake the very foundation of the welfare schemes meant for the ST Community in the areas as mentioned by the petitioner. The Commission issued Notice on 15.12.2021 to the Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh and the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh to take necessary action and submit the Action Taken Report within 15 days.

Pursuant thereto, the Commission received Letter dated 27.07.2022 from the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh acknowledging that due to certain mistakes on part of the officers in verification, some non-tribals were added to the list.

The Commission carefully examined the reply and the lapse on the part of the Authorities. Summons were issued to the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh on 13.09.2022 and 27.03.2022 to appear before the Commission for Sitting. But, the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh did not appear.

Subsequently, the Commission issued Summons to Dr. Pallavi Jain Govil, Principal Secretary, Tribal Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Smt. Saloni Sidana, District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh to appear before the Commission on 14.06.2023 at 03:00 PM for Sitting.

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A अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK सदस्य/Member राष्ट्रीय अनुसचित जनजाति आयोग NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES भारत सङ्कार/Govt. of India

Smt. Saloni Sidana, District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh did not appear before the Commission. During the Sitting on 14.06.2022 the Petitioner submitted that in addition to non-tribals receiving benefits of the project and the irregularities in the list of the beneficiaries, there were irregularities in the amount spent in each district. The petitioner submitted that different amounts are spent in different districts for the same number of beneficiaries Amounts spent in some districts are larger as compared to the others despite having the same number of PVTG and tribal beneficiaries.

The Petitioner further submitted that the authorities have intentionally and willfully wrongly added beneficiaries who did not meet the mandatory requirements. It is further stated that proper verification of fake caste certificates have not been done and despite acknowledgement from the authorities themselves that there were certain mistakes in the verification, no action has been taken by the authorities in this regard.

Smt. Reeta Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Tribal Welfare Department, Madhya Pradesh submitted that they are looking into the matter and are coordinating with the Department of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh and other concerned Departments to take action against all the irregularities and resolve the issue in-toto. The Authority further submitted that the Tribal Area Development had disbursed funds to the Department of Agriculture department Government of Madhya Pradesh which is implementing the schemes through the district administration. They have sought reports from the Department of Agriculture department, Government of Madhya Pradesh on the utilization of funds, but have not received the reports yet.

Deputy Director, Agriculture Development Department, Mandla District, Madhya Pradesh submitted that they were considering the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. They have investigated the issue and have found that no irregularities are found. All the beneficiaries belong to the Scheduled Tribes only.

The Commission takes serious view of the habitual absence of the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh. Despite receiving multiple Summons, the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh has failed to provide any legitimate reason for the absence. The Commission notes the whimsical and lackadaisical attitude of the authorities. The Commission expressed serious disappointment the way the authorities are handling the issue, starting from their improper verification of caste certificates of the beneficiaries to their inordinate delay in submitting the Action Taken Report to the Commission within the stipulated time.

अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK सदस्य/Member राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES भारत सरकार/Govt. of India नई दिल्ही/New Delhi 2 0 5

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Even after eight months, the Authorities have failed to submit a preliminary report. The Commission further observes that proper investigation has not been undertaken by the Authorities. It is pointed out that vide Letter dated 27.07.2022 the District Collector has himself admitted that names of non-tribals have been added to the list due to certain mistakes on part of the officers in-charge of the verification process. But to utter surprise and dismay, the Authorities are claiming that there are no irregularities. The Commission believes there should be no scope for Corruption. The Nation as a whole is concerned about the pain and plight of the STs who are deprieved of justice. After hearing both the sides and carefully examining the documents and the lethargic attitude of the administration in handling the issue and ensuring justice to the Tribals, the Commission prima-facie observes serious lapses and lacunae in the present matter.

The Commission takes the issue seriously and recommends the followings: -

- 1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh will coordinate with the Agriculture Development Department, Madhya Pradesh; Tribal Welfare Department, Madhya Pradesh and the District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh and conduct thorough investigation into the issue and ensure that all the irregularities in the list of beneficiaries are rectified.
- 2. The Principal Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department, Madhya Pradesh shall furnish copies of all communications and minutes of all meetings held with the Agriculture Development Department, Madhya Pradesh, and other concerned authorities regarding the issue.
- 3. The District Collector, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh has to submit detailed Action Taken Report on all the points raised by the petitioner along with list of all the beneficiaries.

Notice be issued to the Principal Secretary, Agriculture Development Department, Madhya Pradesh to furnish details of all the documents pertaining to the issue within 15 days.

Action Taken Report with compliance of the recommendations to be furnished within 15 days for further perusal of the Commission.

A Copy of the proceedings along with the entire file be sent to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to do the needful associating the petitioner and submit a report within 30 days for perusal of the Commission.

अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK
पदस्य/Member
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पदस्य/Member

## (ANNEXURE)

## F. No. NCST/DEV-167/MP/3/2021-ESDW

## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:-**

	National Commis	ssion for Scheduled Tribes
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Ananta Nayak	Hon'ble Member
2.	Dr. Jayant Sarode	Director
3.	Shri H.R. Meena	Research Officer
	The Collector	& District Magistrate,
		rict Mandla,
	Governmen	t of Madhya Pradesh
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri R.D. Jatav	DDA, Mandla
2.	Shri Ranjit Gupta	Regional Coordinator
		ncipal Secretary,
		elfare Department,
	Governmen	t of Madhya Pradesh
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Rita Singh	Deputy Commissioner
		Petitioner
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Punit Tandon	Petitioner