



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

A Constitutional Body set up under Article 338A of the Constitution of India to investigate & monitor all matters relating to safeguards provided to the Scheduled Tribes.



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been set up with effect from 19 February 2004 by amending Article 338 and by inserting a new Article 338A in the Constitution through the Constitution (89 Amendment) Act, 2003, which inter-alia, enjoins upon the Commission to oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution or any other law for the time being in force or under any other order of the Govt. and to evaluate the working of such safeguards. The Commission comprises a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and three full-time (including one lady) Members.



Review of constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes in the State of Jharkhand by the team of NCST led by Shri Antar Singh Arya, Hon'ble Chairperson held on 30.08.2024

2. Composition of the present Commission (7th Commission)

Sn.	Name	Designation	Assumption of Charge
1	Shri Antar Singh Arya	Chairperson	13.03.2024
2	(Vacant)	Vice Chairperson	-
3	Dr. Asha Lakra	Member	12.03.2024
4	Shri Nirupam Chakma	Member	14.03.2024
5	Shri Jatothu Hussain	Member	14.03.2024

The term of office of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members is Three (03) years from the date of assumption of charge. The Chairperson has been given the rank of Union Cabinet Minister, the Vice Chairperson has the rank of a Minister of State, and other Members have the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.

 <p>Shri Antar Singh Arya, Hon'ble Chairperson</p>	 <p>Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member</p>	 <p>Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member</p>	 <p>Dr. Asha Lakra, Hon'ble Member</p>
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3. Duties and Functions of the Commission

The Constitution of India under Clause (5) of Article 338A has assigned the following duties and functions to the Commission: -

- To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution or any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;
- To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Tribes;
- To participate and advise in the planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State;
- To present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards.
- To make in such reports recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the

protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes and;

- f) To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare, development, and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes as the President may, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, by rule specify.



Review of constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes in the State of Maharashtra by the team of NCST led by Shri Antar Singh Arya, Hon'ble Chairperson on 09.01.2025

The NCST has been assigned certain additional functions *vide* the Ministry of Tribal Affairs Notification dated 23.8.2005 in the exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (f) of Clause (5) of Article 338A, namely:

- a) Measures that need to be taken over conferring ownership rights in respect of minor forest produce to STs living in forest areas.
- b) Measures to be taken to safeguard the rights of the tribal communities over mineral resources, water resources, etc., as laid down by law.
- c) Measures to be taken for the development of Tribal to plug loopholes and work on more viable livelihood strategies.
- d) Measures to be taken to improve the efficacy of relief and rehabilitation measures for tribal groups displaced by development projects.
- e) Measures are to be taken to prevent alienation of tribal people from land and to rehabilitate such people effectively, in which case alienation has already taken place.

- f) Measures to be taken to elicit maximum cooperation and involvement of tribal communities for protecting forests and undertaking social afforestation.
- g) Measures to be taken to ensure full implementation of the provision of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- h) Measures to be taken to reduce and ultimately eliminate the practice of shifting cultivation by tribal that lead to their continuous disempowerment and degradation of land and the environment.



Shri Antar Singh Arya, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCST chairing the 155th Meeting of the Commission along with Hon'ble Members and Officers of NCST

4. Powers of the Commission

While investigating the matters referred to in sub-clause (a) or inquiring into any complaint referred to in sub-clause (b) of clause 5, the Commission has all the powers of a Civil Court trying a suit and in particularly in respect of the following matters, namely: -

- a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- b) Requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- c) Receiving evidence on affidavits;

- d) Requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office;
- e) Issuing summons/communications for the examination of witnesses and documents;
- f) Any other matters which the President may by rule determine.

5. Consultation by the Union and State Government with the Commission

In accordance with clause (9) of Article 338A of the Constitution, the Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Tribes.

6. Monitoring

The Commission, while investigating matters relating to the safeguards provided under the Constitution, monitors the implementation and working of safeguards, which include:

- a) Acting upon Article 23 of the Constitution, which prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour, etc., concerning STs.
- b) Prohibition of child labour under Article 24 in respect of STs.
- c) Educational safeguards under Article 15 (4) for reservation of seats for STs in educational institutions.
- d) Economic safeguards under Article 244, the working of Fifth and Sixth Schedules, and the release of grants for raising the administration level in tribal areas.
- e) Safeguarding STs' distinct language, script, or culture under Article 29(i).
- f) Working of service safeguards provided under Articles 16 (4), 16 (4) (a), 16 (4) (B), and 335 providing for adequate representation of Scheduled Tribes in appointments or posts.
- g) Enforcement of various laws such as:
 - a. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
 - b. Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 (regarding Scheduled Tribes).

- c. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 (regarding Scheduled Tribes).
- d. State Acts and Regulations concerning alienation and restoration of land belonging to Scheduled Tribes.
- e. Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes)
- f. The Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- g. Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes)

7. Annual Reports of the Commission

Clause 5(d) of Article 338A mandates the Commission “to present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem, reports upon the working of those safeguards,” and Clause 5(e) provides “to make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes.”

Clause 6 of Article 338A provides that “the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament along with a Memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

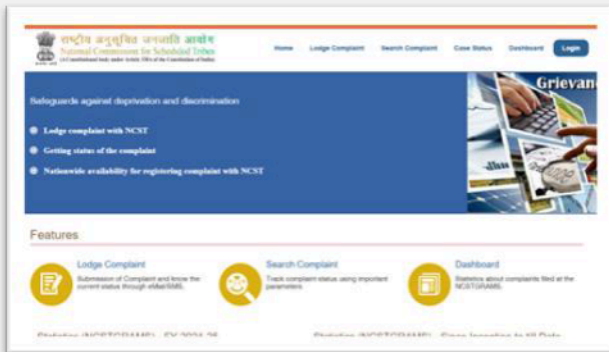
Clause 7 of Article 338A provides that “Where any such report or any part thereof relates to any matter with which any State Government is concerned, a copy of such report shall be forwarded to the Governor of the State who shall cause it to be laid before the Legislature of the State along with a Memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the State and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

8. Grievance Investigation and resolution in NCST

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) investigates complaints through specialized Four Research Units (RUs), ensuring focused and effective resolutions.

9. Filing of Grievance

Any aggrieved Scheduled Tribe person may approach the NCST by filing a complaint online at www.ncstgrams.gov.in



Through Email to Hon'ble Chairperson/ Members/ Officers -

- Chairperson- chairperson@ncst.nic.in
- Member (NC)- member-nc@ncst.nic.in
- Member (AL)- member-al@ncst.nic.in
- Member (JH)- jatothu.hussain@ncst.nic.in
- Secretary, NCST- secy@ncst.nic.in

File the Complaint through the registered post to the address below-

*The Chairperson/ Member/ Secretary
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (HQ)
6th Floor, B-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhavan,
Khan Market, New Delhi-110003*

Photographs

- Reviews of District/ PSEs undertaken by the Commission**



- Meeting with members of the Scheduled Tribes community**



CONTACT US - HEADQUARTERS

Sn.	Name	Designation	Office	Room No.
1.	Shri Antar Singh Arya	Chairperson	Ph. 24635721	601
2.	Shri Rajeev Saxena	PS to Chairperson	Ph. 24635721	621A
3.	Shri Nirupam Chakma	Member	Ph.- 24657373	607
4.	Shri Gaurav Kumar	PS to Member	Ph.- 24657373	614
5.	Dr. Asha Lakra	Member	Ph.- 24623958	603
6.	Shri Kusheshwar Sahu	PS to Member	Ph.- 24623958	620 A
7.	Shri Jatothu Hussain	Member	Ph.- 24646954	609
8.	Shri Ashok Kumar Lakkarsu	PS to Member	Ph.- 24646954	619A
9.	Shri Puneet Kumar Goel	Secretary	Ph.- 24635625	602
10.	Shri Amit Nirmal	Joint Secretary	Ph.- 24603669	610
11.	Shri Surat Singh	Director (Admn. & RU-IV)	Ph.- 24615012	2 nd Floor
12.	Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy	Director (RU-II)	Ph.- 20819841	2 nd Floor
13.	Shri Rakesh Kumar Dubey	Dy. Director (Coord., DDO, & RU- I)	Ph.- 20819839	210
14.	Shri Praveen Kumar Singh	Under Secretary (Estt. & Admn.)	Ph.- 24657271	2 nd Floor
15.	Shri. Ram Janam Choudhary	Assistant Director (OL)	Ph.- 24601346	2 nd Floor
16.	Shri Hari Ram Meena	Research Officer (RU- II & IV)	Ph.- 24615012	2 nd Floor

:: Contact Address ::



“B” Wing, 6th Floor,
Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market,
New Delhi- 110003

Website: www.ncst.nic.in

For Complaint: www.ncstgram.gov.in

CONTACT US- REGIONAL OFFICE

(Location and Jurisdiction of Regional Offices of NCST)

SL No	Regional Office (RO): Location & Address	Designation of the Officer In- charge	Jurisdiction of the Regional Office
1	Bhopal: Room No.309, Nirman Sadan, CGO Complex, 52-A, Area Hills, Bhopal-462011	Shri R.K. Dubey Deputy Director, Ph: 0755-2576530	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, and Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep
2	Bhubaneshwar: N-1/297, IRC Village, Bhubaneshwar-751015	Shri P. Kalyan Reddy Director Ph:0674-2551616	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West Bengal and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry
3	Jaipur: Room No. 101 & 102, 1st Floor, Block-A, Kendriya Sadan Sector-10, Vidyadhar Nagar, Jaipur- 302023	Shri Ankit Kumar Sen Research Officer Ph: 0141-2236462	Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, NCT of Delhi and Union Territories of Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh
4	Raipur: EAC Colony Plot No. 3/16, First Floor, Behind District Courts, Near Purnima School, Raipur-492001	Shri P.K. Das Research Officer Ph: 0771-2443334	Chhattisgarh
5	Ranchi: 14, New A.G. Co-operative Colony, Kadru, Ranchi- 834002	Shri P.K. Das Research Officer Ph: 0651-2341677	Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh
6	Shillong: Rabekka Villa, Temple Road, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong-793001	Shri P. Kalyan Reddy Director Ph: 0364-2504202	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.



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“B” Wing, 6th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Khan Market, New Delhi- 110003

Website: www.ncst.nic.in

For Complaint: www.ncstgram.gov.in

Toll-Free No.: 1800 117777
