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## **Steps on to restore peace in Narayanpatna**

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In the aftermath of the agitation by Chasi Muliya Adivasi Sangh (CMAS) in the Narayanpatna area in Koraput district and visit of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik last week, immediate steps have been taken by the district administration to restore peace and tranquility in the disturbed area, informed the new Sub-Collector (Grade I) of Koraput, Rajesh Prabhakar Patel to The Pioneer.

He said that in the first phase transaction of tribal land to non-tribal land under Section 3(1) of OSATIP Regulation of 1956 will be undertaken. Inquiry will be made into the genuineness of transaction of tribal land to non-tribals among those who have made declaration under Section 3(B)(1) of the amended Regulation-2 of ASATIP, 1956 till September 7, 2005.

Patel also informed that the list of all mutations done especially in Narayanpatna will be compiled revenue village wise for the cases where tribal land has been transferred to non-tribals in each Tehsil in Koraput Sub-Division. The list will be tallied with the declaration made under Section 3 (B) (1) of the amended Regulation 2 and the non-declared cases and land will be reverted back to the tribals with immediate effect.

Besides a large number of people of Koraput sub-division are residing in the village which has no house-site patta as the land is still unsettled and identified as Grama Kantha Parambook. A special drive would be taken in some critical villages in the first phase and house-site patta will be given to the Basti land as per norms, he said.

Patel also said that a large number of tribals had applied under the Scheduled Tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act of 2006.

However, their claims were rejected on account of non-Jungal Kissam of Revenue Land. A special drive will be undertaken to settle AJA and AAA Kissam land, he said.

The number of such claimants is approximately 8,000 and so over 10,000 acre of land pattas can be distributed to the tribals in the special drive, he added. Patel also reported that preparation of the list of all RSDs where tribal land has been transferred to non-tribals from the three Sub-Registrar offices and District Sub-Registrar and this list will be compared with the list prepared at SI 3 and the extra cases of RSDs will be enquired into and immediate action will be taken.

Lastly the newly posted Sub-Collector Patel also informed that the Government in Revenue Department has been moved for filling the vacant posts of Tehsildars in Narayanpatna, Laxmipur and Bandhugaon Blocks which will help in launching the special drive for settlement of land disputes in these areas.

However, peace is prevailing in Narayanpatna area and the roads have been cleared from Laxmipur to Narayanpatna with the untiring efforts of the police personnel and buses have started plying on the route.

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