

F.No. 23011/09/2016-FRA  
Government of India  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Room No. 401, B Wing,  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Shastri Bhawan,  
Rajendra Prasad Road,  
110001, New Delhi,  
Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

Order

Preparation of Model Guidelines for Conservation, Management and sustainable use of Community Forest Resources (CFR Guideline in short) under Forest Rights Act, 2006 by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in consultation with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) was under process for quite some time. As part of this process, a draft CFR Guideline was prepared in 2016 / 2017. There has been disagreement between the position taken by two Ministries and felt need to resolve the matter and issue guidelines on the subject which are in consonance with the spirit of Forest Rights Act, 2006.

2. As per the Forest Rights Act, 2006, Gram Sabha is the grass root level democratic institution and by virtue of being a democratic institution, it is expected to decide the overall framework and objectives in which decisions on conservation and management plan should be made i.e decision will be taken by Gram Sabha only keeping in view on the consideration what is beneficial for forest dwelling communities. Gram Sabha is supposed to have monitoring and controlling role in the matter of conservation and management of community forest resources for its sustainable use for the benefit of forest dwelling communities. The Rules under the said Act also reflect this spirit.

3. Keeping in view of above foregoing, it has been decided with the approval of the Competent Authority to **constitute a Committee headed by Dr. N C Saxena (Retired IAS) to examine and recommend CFR Guideline under Forest Rights Act, 2006.**

4. The composition of the committee will be as under: -

- a) Dr. N.C. Saxena, Retired IAS - Chairman (Also earlier chaired a Joint Committee of MOEFCC and MoTA on Forest Rights Act).
- b) Principal Secretary of State Tribal Development Department, Maharashtra – Member