

## **Protest at 1 pm, Parliament Street on Nov 4th, by Adivasis from Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, MP, Gujarat**

The Central government claims that it cares about the rights of adivasis and forest dwellers and it wishes to provide them "development." In that case, why is it breaking the law and promoting initiatives that will deprive people of their rights?

On November 4th, the Prime Minister will address a meeting of State Chief Ministers to "review" the implementation of the Forest Rights Act 2006. The Centre claims it wants to complete implementation of this law by December 31st, 2009, but in reality it is:

Both ignoring and actively supporting the Forest Department and State governments in breaking the law. This will result in people not having their rights to land, forests, water etc. properly recognised.

Ignoring the most important right in the Forest Rights Act - the right and power of communities to protect and control their forests.

Pouring money into plantation projects that will result in people losing more individual and common lands as well as cause environmental damage.

Sending in troops and police while doing nothing to protect people's legal rights; across the country, even in areas that have never seen Maoists, the police are used against peaceful struggles and in the defence of corporate interests.

Are these the actions of a government that is behaving in good faith?

To protest this, forest dwellers from four States have gathered at Jantar Mantar for a dharna today (Nov 3rd) and will stage a protest at Parliament street tomorrow.

### **Our Demands**

Implement all provisions of the Forest Rights Act and the respect powers of the gram sabha under it  
Recognise the right and power of the people to protect their forest resources under the Forest Rights Act;  
terminate the sham scheme of "Joint Forest Management"

All projects in forest areas – development, industrial, forestry, etc. - must be undertaken with the consent of and as per plans prepared by the community

Halt repression and respect democracy, peace and justice

Campaign for Survival and Dignity  
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