

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)

F. No. NCST/DEV-552/OR/68/2022-ESDW

E-Mail: dm-jharsuguda@nic.in

Dated: 29.03.2023

To,

The District Collector and Magistrate, District –Jharsuguda, Office of the District Magistrate and Collector, Jharsuguda-768204, Odisha The Chief Executive Officer, Vedanta Limited, Village –Bhurkamunda, Jharsuguda, Bhubaneshwar – 768201 (Odisha) Email: infoaluminium@vedanta.co.in

Sub: Minutes of the Sitting taken by Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, New Delhi on the 13.03.2023 at 03:30 PM regarding Representation dated Nil of Shri Rabindra Rohidas and Other, AT- Brundamal, PO/PS - Badmal, District - Jharsuguda, Odisha - 768202 regarding Vedanta Company is digging the soil from the Brindamal Village pond without permission.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of Minutes of the Sitting taken by Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, New Delhi on the 13.03.2023 at 03:30 PM on the above mentioned subject for information and necessary action.

2. The Action Taken Report (ATR) may be submitted within 15 days from the date of receiving of the Minutes/Proceeding.

Yours faithfully,

(H.R./Meena)
Research Officer

Copy for information to: -

Shri Rabindra Rohidas, At-Brundamal, PO/PS - Badmal, District - Jharsuguda, Odisha - 768202

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

No. NCST/DEV-552/OR/68/2022-ESDW

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, on the representation of Shri Rabindra Rohidas and Other, AT-Brundamal, PO/PS - Badmal, District - Jharsuguda, Odisha - 768202 dated 28.10.2021 regarding digging the soil from the Brindamal village pond without permission by Vedanta Company.

Date of the sitting: 13.03.2023; 03.30 PM

List of Participants: As per Annexure

The Commission received one representation of Shri Rabindra Rohidas and Other, AT- Brundamal, PO/PS - Badmal, District - Jharsuguda, Odisha - 768202 dated 28.10.2021 regarding digging the soil from the Brindamal village pond without permission by Vedanta Company digging of soil from the Brindamal village pond without permission by Vedanta Company.

Considering the gravity of the issue raised in the petition, the Commission issued Notice dated 12.08.2022 to the District Collector and Magistrate, Jharsuguda seeking reply from the concerned officials within 15 days.

An additional representation was received from the petitioners which stated that they were being threatened with dire consequences, district administration is not helping. The petitioner Shri Rabindra Rohindas stated that he did not sign any documents and someone else had forged documents.

Subsequent to issuance of the Notice dated 12.08.2022, a reply was received from District Collector and Magistrate, Jharsuguda which submitted that no ash dumping activity had been carried out at the site and on the other hand, the site was found to be levelled with soil for development of playground. Further, it was submitted that plantation has been done at the alleged site with barbed wire fencing around the site. The land levelling area is approximately 100 m away from the bank of the pond.

The Commission found the reply unsatisfactory and thereupon, issued summons to CEO, Vedanta Limited, Jharsuguda and District Collector and Magistrate, Jharsuguda to appear before the Commission on 13.03.2023.

During the hearing, the authorities informed that on the request of the villagers, the extra soil from the excavation of the tank was used for levelling of a shallow land which was 100 meters away from the tank in order to make a playground for the youth of the village. They submitted that no ash has been dumped in the area. As far as the issue of threats on the life of the petitioner was concerned, the authorities feigned ignorance and assured that an enquiry will be conducted into this matter.

The Commission recommended that an enquiry be held into the matter and District Collector and Magistrate, Jharsuguda should ensure that the petitioner is not subjected to such threats in the future.

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

F. No. NCST/DEV-552/OR/68/2022-ESDW

List of Participants:-

S. No.	Name	
1.		Designation
	Shri Ananta Nayak	Hon'ble Member
2.	Dr. Jayant Sarode	Director
3.	Shri H.R. Meena	Research Officer
4.	Miss Ayushi Jain	Young Professional (Legal)
5.		S Committee (Cogui)
	The District Coll	ector and Magistrate,
	District -	-Jharsuguda,
		disha
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Saroj Kumar Samal	Collector
2.		0 0 100000
	The Chief E	xecutive Officer,
		a Limited,
		hwar,Odisha
S. No.	Name	Designation
	Shri Nabal Kishore Sharma	Head Legal
2.		Tread Legal
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S. No.	Name	tioners
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. INO.	Absent	Designation Petitioner