

10th NOV Bangalore

State told to increase ST job quota to 6.5 per cent

BANGALORE: The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, on Friday, directed the State government to increase the quota of reservation in employment for Scheduled Tribes (STs) to 6.5 per cent from the present 3 per cent in the State.

Addressing the media, the Commission Chairperson Rameshwar Oraon said it is mandatory for all states to fix the quota in proportion to the population. "Though STs constitute 6.5 per cent of the total population of Karnataka, the quota is fixed at 3 per cent. Karnataka is the only State in

Commission's advice

- Set up a separate department for ST development.
- Set up a separate State ST commission.
- Conduct a probe into the use of fake caste certificate.
- Improve quality of inves-

the country not to provide quota to STs in employment as per the population figures," he added.

He was speaking after reviewing steps taken by the State government for the welfare of STs. Besides, members

tigation of cases booked under SCs and STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

- Ensure implementation of Mahatana Gandhi National Rural Employment Guranatee Scheme in tribal areas.

of the Commission had recently visited tribal areas in Bellary and Mysore districts to get the first hand information on their living condition.

Oraon further said the State government has failed to allocate adequate funds to the de-

velopment of tribal areas in the annual budgets. The budgetary allocation should also be in proportion to the population. But the government has been allocating an average of 3.86 per cent (of its plan size). "As a result, there is a huge gap between STs and others in terms of development. We have urged the State government to allocate more money," he stated.

The State has not made much progress in implementing the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The Commission has received

complaints of forest department officials resisting utilization of minor forest produces by tribals. The Chief Secretary S V Ranganath has been directed to take necessary step in this regard, the Chairperson said. The Commission, however, hailed the State government for providing quality education and healthcare to STs in the State.

"Performance of students at Morarji Desai Residential schools is very good. In fact, the standard of education at these schools is much better compared to anywhere in the country," Oraon said.

DH News Service

करना भी मुश्किल है कि शरीफ ने सरकारी विदेश यात्रा ~~बखिल की थी। लेकिन~~

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आदिवासी कल्याण योजनाओं में

असफल रही राज्य सरकार : ओरोन

बेंगलूर । अनुसूचित जाति-जनजाति राष्ट्रीय आयोग के चेयरमैन रामेश्वर ओरोन ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि कर्नाटक की भारतीय जनता पार्टी सरकार राज्य में आदिवासियों के कल्याण के उपायों को लागू करने में नाकाम रही है और साथ ही केन्द्र तथा राज्य दोनों ही आदिवासियों के कल्याण कार्यक्रमों के क्रियान्वयन में ढिलाई बरती गई है। संवाददाताओं से बात करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि राज्य सरकार ने आदिवासी बच्चों की शिक्षा, उनके लिए खाद्य सुरक्षा और उनके लिए जमीन खरीदने के कुछ अच्छे कदम भी उठाए हैं। वहीं कई जगह सरकार आदिवासियों के कल्याणार्थ काम करने में असफल रही है जिसमें शिक्षा और रोजगार क्षेत्र में आदिवासियों के लिए आरक्षण प्रमुख है। उन्होंने कहा कि मैंने देखा है कि राज्य सरकार ने पिछले चार दिनों में आदिवासियों के कल्याणार्थ जारी किए

जाने वाली राशि में लगातार बदलाव किया है और कर्नाटक सरकार आदिवासियों की जनसंख्या के अनुपात में फंड आवंटित करना नहीं चाहती है।

उन्होंने कहा कि देश में कर्नाटक ही एक मात्र ऐसा राज्य है जहां सरकारी नौकरियों में आदिवासियों के लिए कोई आरक्षण नहीं है। आदिवासी क्षेत्रों और अन्य क्षेत्रों के बीच विकास कार्यों में सामंजस्य नहीं है और सरकार इस वजह से परेशानी में भी आ सकती है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार को चाहिए कि आदिवासियों की जनसंख्या को ध्यान में रखकर उनके कल्याणार्थ बजट को संशोधित करे तथा ज्यादा राशि जारी करे। आज भी आदिवासी लोग काफी गरीब हैं और उन तक विकास का लाभ नहीं पहुंचता है। इसी प्रकार 'मनरेगा' की योजना का लाभ भी आदिवासियों को नहीं मिल रहा है और उन्हें केवल दो या तीन दिन ही काम मिल पाता है।

Hike ST quota, budget in keeping with their population: commission

'Fund allocation should be on a need-based manner, particularly for tribal groups'

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has expressed concern over reservation and budgetary allocation for Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka being way lower than the percentage of their population of 6.5 per cent.

Speaking to presspersons here on Friday, Commission Chairperson Rameshwar Oraon said that while the tribal sub-plan allocation was only 3.8 per cent in Karnataka, the education and job reservation ceiling for Scheduled Tribes stood at 3 per cent.

The commission has de-

manded that both be hiked in keeping with the population size to 6.5 per cent. Mr. Oraon also said that Karnataka needs to make budgetary allocation on a need-based manner, particularly for primitive tribal groups.

'Many tribal people say that they get only two or three days of work a month under the MGNREGA'

'People in H.D. Kote complain that officials do not allow them to collect minor forest produce'

The commission expressed concern over the "slow progress" in implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. "We received complaints par-

ticularly in the H.D. Kote area about forest officials restricting tribal people from collecting minor forest produce and selling them, which should be rectified," he said.

The commission had also received complaints about implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, with many in tribal areas saying that they get work for no

more than two to three days in a month. Fake caste certificates and low rate of conviction due to poor quality of investigation were other areas of concern, he added.

Mr. Oraon said that the members of the commission had visited places like Bellary and Mysore, where they were satisfied with the educational facilities provided to tribal children in the Morarji Desai Residential Schools.

Speaking of health facilities, Mr. Oraon said that though there was 30 to 35 per cent shortage of medical experts, mobile medical vans were serving the tribal communities well.

ANDHRA PRADESH

Anantapur	33	27	0	118
Arongavaram	29	19	0	198
Bapalla	31	22	0	419
Calingachan	30	21	0	503
Gannavaram	32	21	0	339
Hananikonda	31	19	0	219
Hyderabad AP	32	20	0	118
Kakinada	32	21	0	481
Khammam	31	18	0	229
Kavali	33	24	0	379
Kurmai	33	21	0	139
Mahabubnagar	32	23	0	151
Machilipatnam	33	23	0	445
Nandyal	33	22	0	72
Narasapur	32	23	0	627
Nelore	31	25	0	234
Nizamabad	31	21	0	90
Orissa	34	20	0	654
Ramagundam	31	18	0	106
Tirupathi AP	33	21	0	363
Tuni	33	22	0	398
Vizag AP	32	24	0	425
Vizag	32	23	0	410

KARNATAKA

Ajmer	21	19	0	126
Bangalore AP	29	18	0	131
Bangalore	29	19	0	183
Belgaum AP	21	19	0	72
Bellary	33	21	0	52
Bijapur	31	20	0	204
Chikradurga	31	19	0	173
Chikmagalur	29	19	0	96
Chitambur	28	18	0	253
Gadag	30	20	0	274
Gulbarga	21	22	0	59
Hassan	31	19	0	48

INSAT PICTURE AT 11:30 hrs.

Observations recorded at 8-30 a.m. on

Horavur	31	24	0	332	Kottayam
Karwar	34	25	0	248	Kozhikode
Madikeri	25	16	0	276	Punalur
Margalore AP	31	24	0	213	Thiruvananthapuram AP
Mysore	29	18	0	176	Thiruvananthapuram City
Marudya	30	19	0	145	Vellanikkara
Panambur	33	25	0	157	
Raichur	33	20	0	81	
Shital	33	24	0	287	

TA

Adranapattinam	32	25	0	150
Coimbatore AP	31	25	0	233
Coonoor	31	23	13	424
Cudalore				

'Implementation of Forest Rights Act a panacea for all ills'

K. Jeevan Chinnappa

MYSORE: Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes Rameshwar Oraon is displeased over the tardy implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, by the State governments.

In an exclusive interview with *The Hindu* here on Thursday, Mr. Oraon said the objective of the Forest Rights Act was to facilitate welfare of the tribal people. "The rights of tribal people should be recognised first," he said, adding that the implementation of the Act was good in Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand.

He said only eight districts in the State were notified un-



Rameshwar Oraon

der the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The slow progress of its implementation in Karnataka would be discussed at a review meeting in Bangalore,

Only eight districts in the State notified under the Forest Rights Act: Rameshwar Oraon

'Central funds for all-round development of tribal community are being diverted'

where the Chief Secretary would be present.

Funds from the Centre meant for the all-round development of the tribal community were being diverted, he said. In some cases, people had obtained fake ST certificates to get the benefits. The commission had written about it to the President of India on June 18. What the tribal people need is quality education and awareness of their rights, he said.

Mr. Oraon said no application seeking Scheduled Tribe

status was pending before the commission, though there were more than 400 applications pending before the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The State government should order a survey of such groups through the tribal research institutes and submit them to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. It would then be routed to the Census Commissioner and later referred to the Registrar General of India. There were 164 applications pending from Odisha alone, he said.

Referring to the clash of the

critical tiger habitat guidelines under which the Forest Department was asking tribal people to leave the areas marked as critical tiger habitats, Mr. Oraon said the interests of the tribal people who have inhabited the forests ought to be considered positively. The 'honour' being accorded to the tigers ought to be given to the tribal people as well.

When told about the complaints of the tribal people about the alleged harassment of the Forest Department under one pretext or the other, Mr. Oraon said, "Yes, it is true. I am a tribal person myself and I have faced harassment from the Forest Department in my childhood." Implementation of the Forest Rights Act will be the

panacea for all ills, Mr. Oraon said. "The days are coming," he said in reply to a question on whether there would be an end to such developments.

On the involvement of certain non-governmental organisations in the State in rehabilitating tribal people outside the forests, he said NGOs must confine their roles to limited functions in the forests. He also did not favour the proposal to include natural sites in Karnataka in the UNESCO's World Heritage Site list. "Tribal people should be left to themselves, undisturbed and unhindered in the forests," he said.

K. Kamala Kumari and B.L. Meena, both members of the commission, and a three-member team of officials, are accompanying Mr. Oraon.