



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-4447/OR/90/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Dated 07.11.2025

To,

1. **The Chief Secretary,**
Government of Odisha,
Lokseba Bhawan, Odisha Secretariat,
Bhubaneswar, Khordha,
(Odisha)- 751001
Email Id: csori@nic.in
Tel. No: 916742534300

2. **The Additional Chief Secretary Odisha,**
Deptt of Revenue & Disaster Management,
Government of Odisha,
Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar, Khordha,
(Odisha)- 751001
Email Id: revsec.od@nic.in
Tel. No: 916742536822

3. **The District Collector & Magistrate,**
District - Nayagarh,
Collectorate, At/Po- Nayagarh,
(Odisha)- 752069
Email Id: dm-nayagarh@nic.in
Tel. No: 956753252333

Sub: Representation bearing no. MUFO-72/2025, dated 17-02-2025 of Shri Bidyadhar Dehury, Chairman, Mulnibasi United Forum Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Plot No. 5907/A, G/L Colony, VSS Nagar, PO- Rasulgarh, PS- Sahidnagar, Bhubaneswar- 751010, regarding construction of Gumi Grama Panchayat Office, Nuagaon Block, Nayagarh District of Odisha, in an impartial and accessible location.

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sitting held on 17.10.2025 at 06:05 PM under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi 110003 on the above mentioned subject, for information.

Yours faithfully,

(डॉ. पी. कल्याण रेड्डी/Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy)

निदेशक/Director

Telephone No. : 011-20819841

Copy for information:-

1. Shri Bidyadhar Dehury, Chairman, Mulanibasi United Forum Odisha, Plot No. 5907/A, G/L Colony, VSS Nagar, Post-Rasulgarh, PS- Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751010, Odisha, Mobile No: 9437932485
2. PS to Hon'ble Member (JH), NCST.
3. NIC, NCST for uploading on the website of the Commission.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi in the case of Shri Bidyadhar Dehury, Chairman, Mulnibasi United Forum Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Plot No. 5907/A, G/L Colony, VSS Nagar, PO-Rasulgarh, PS- Sahidnagar, Bhubaneswar regarding construction of Gumi Grama Panchayat Office, Nuagaon Block, Nayagarh District of Odisha, in an impartial and accessible location.

F. No. NCST/DEV-4447/OR/90/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Date of the Sitting: 17.10.2025 at 6:05 PM

Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure

Shri Bidyadhar Dehury, Chairman, Mulanibasi United Forum, Odisha, vide his representation dated 17.02.2025 has alleged that the "Gumi" Gram Panchayat under Nuagaon Block, Nayagarh District, predominantly inhabited by ST communities, is at risk of caste-based discrimination if the Panchayat office is constructed in Gumi village, which is dominated by upper-caste residents. MUFO's fact-finding report highlights that 10 out of 14 wards are ST-dominated and locating the office in Gumi could lead to social exclusion and systemic discrimination against Dalit and ST residents, similar to past conflicts in nearby villages. MUFO requests the Commission to direct the Odisha Government to ensure the Panchayat building is constructed at an impartial and accessible location, safeguarding the rights of the majority ST population in Gumi Panchayat.


2. NCST vide notice dated 27.02.2025 has sought facts and comments from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Revenue & Disaster Management, Govt. of Odisha and District Collector & Magistrate, District-Nayagarh within 30 days from receipt of the Notice.

3. The District Collector, Nayagarh, vide letter No. 532/GP dated 04.04.2025 has informed that the Gumi Gram Panchayat, established in 2016, comprises 16 revenue villages and 14 wards with Gumi village accounting for 4 wards and 31.41% of the total population. Under Section 4(3) of the Odisha Gram Panchayat Act, 1964, the Panchayat office must be located in the village bearing the name of the Gram Panchayat, making Gumi village the mandated location. Government land in Gumi has been identified for construction of the office. The Collector further stated that, as per the Police records from 2021-2025, no cases under the Prevention of Atrocities Act have been registered in Gumi, indicating that caste-based discrimination against Dalit and ST communities does not appear probable. Consequently, construction of the Gumi Gram Panchayat office has commenced at Gumi village. This was sent to the petitioner for information vide NCST letter dated 09.05.2025.

4. The petitioner vide rejoinder dated 06.06.2025 has submitted that the Gumi Gram Panchayat office, though currently located in Gumi village as per legal nomenclature, is not centrally located and is dominated by general caste residents with no ST population in the village itself. MUFO highlighted that 72% of the Panchayat population belongs to ST and SC communities residing in 10 other wards and constructing the office in Gumi could lead to social exclusion and systemic discrimination against them. The rejoinder cites past instances of caste-based atrocities in Nayagarh district and emphasizes that government policy and judicial precedents allow discretionary placement of Panchayat offices to ensure fairness and accessibility. This was sent to the authorities for furnishing the facts and comments vide NCST letter dated 08.09.2025. There was no reply received, hence, NCST decided to discuss the issue with the authorities and the petitioner on 17.10.2025. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 06.10.2025.

5. There was no response from Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha and Addl. Chief Secretary Department of Revenue & Disaster Management, Govt. of Odisha. The Collector, Nayagarh joined via Video Conference and petitioner were present. The petitioner has reiterated issues mentioned in their letter dated 6.6.2025 and requested for justice. The District Collector, Nayagarh has drawn the attention of their letter dated 4.4.2025 and stated that District Administration is following the rules and started construction of the Panchayat House and Gumi Village.

6. After discussion with the authority and petitioner, it was observed that no action is warranted on part of NCST. Hence, the case may be closed. However, the petitioner is advised, if, there is any discrimination on basis, he may approach NCST.


(Jatothu Hussain)
सदस्य / Member
भारत सरकार / Government of India
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

F. No. NCST/DEV-4447/OR/90/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

List of participants of the sitting held on 17.10.2025 at 6.05 under the chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST at New Delhi.

Sr. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
I	<u>National Commission for Scheduled Tribes</u>		
1.	Dr. P.Kalyan Reddy Director		
2.	NCST Officials		
II	<u>Govt. of Odisha</u>		
Sr. No.	Name, Designation and Address	Phone No.	Signature
III	<u>Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Bhubaneswar</u>		
IV	<u>District Collector, District - Navagarh</u>		

ONLINE