



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-4032/AP/153/2024-RO-BHUV/RU-III

01.12.2025

To

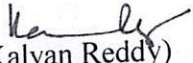
1. The Chief Secretary
Government Of Andhra Pradesh,
A.P. Secretariat,
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh 000000
Email Id: cs@ap.gov.in
Tel. No: 08632441024
2. The Vice-Chairman & Managing Director
A.P.Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd
GCC Head Office - Beach Rd,
near VUDA Park Light House,
East Point Colony, Jalari Peta,
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh 530017

Sub: Representation received from Smt. Ramalaxmi Gaduturi, Executive member of Indian Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of AP regarding creating terror and fear among the employees of GCC which is leading to heavy revenue loss to GCC.

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sitting held on 06.05.2025 at 2:00 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. Smt Ramalaxmi Gaduturi,
Door No.1-11-51/1, Shivaji Park Road,
Laxminagar,
Visakhapatnam-530017, Andhra Pradesh
Mobile No:8074374921
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 Smt. Ramalaxmi Gaduturi, Executive Member, Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples/Bharatiya Adivasula Samakhya, Andhra Pradesh State regarding alleged issues at Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (GCC).

(NCST/DEV-4032/AP/153/2024-RO-BHUV/RU-III)

Date of the Sitting: 06/05/2025, 02:00 PM

Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure

Smt. Ramalaxmi Gaduturi, Executive Member, Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples/Bharatiya Adivasula Samakhya, Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) vide her petition dated December 19, 2024 has raised serious concerns regarding the functioning of Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (GCC), a Government of Andhra Pradesh undertaking, after Ms. Kalpana Kumari, IAS (2018 batch), took charge as Vice-Chairman and Managing Director on July 22, 2024. The petitioner alleges that Ms. Kumari's behavior is demoralizing and amounts to mental harassment, particularly towards employees belonging to the Scheduled Tribe community, who constitute 90% of the workforce. She is accused of favoring deputation staff over regular employees and issuing tenders to franchise profitable tribal welfare units, such as the turmeric processing and honey industries, which the petitioner claims may cause heavy revenue loss and shift the organization's focus from tribal welfare to corporate interests. Additionally, the petitioner alleges that 982 vacant posts are being filled through deputation without public notification, undermining opportunities for tribal candidates. A prayer has been made to enquire into the matter, conduct one-on-one meetings with GCC employees and tribals and take disciplinary action against the VC and MD to protect tribal rights and restore the welfare mandate of GCC.

2. NCST vide notice dated 01.01.2025 sought facts and comments from the Chief Secretary, Gov of AP within 30 days from receipt of the Notice. The Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd., Visakhapatnam, vide their letter dated 12.02.2025 has informed that the allegations made by Smt. Ramalaxmi Gaduturi regarding a fearful work environment and anti-tribal policies are unsubstantiated and lack evidence. Disciplinary actions against certain employees were based on serious misconduct and dereliction of duty, such as fund misappropriation and negligence and were taken without any bias. Addressing concerns on deputation, it was explained that only 20% of sanctioned posts are filled and deputation was resorted to as a temporary solution due to long-standing vacancies and procedural delays in recruitment. Regarding the alleged corporatization, it was mentioned that the franchise model and outsourcing of processing activities are in line with market development strategies that benefit tribal producers. Several pro-employee and tribal welfare measures including grievance redressal mechanisms, ERP implementation, infrastructure development and an increase in Minimum Support Price for coffee were highlighted. In concluding part it was mentioned that all actions taken the management were in the interest of GCC's objectives and do not indicate harassment or deviation from tribal welfare goals. This reply was forwarded to the petitioner on 20.02.2025.

3. The petitioner submitted a rejoinder dated 'Nil' where in the facts were refuted. Thereafter there were several communications between the authority and the petitioner, but the issue could not be resolved, hence, NCST decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 06.05.2025. Accordingly, a sitting notice was sent on 21.04.2025.

4. In the sitting, the Managing Director, Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd was present. The representative of the petitioner was present. The representative of the petitioner reiterated the earlier submission of the petitioner. The Managing Director of Girijan Cooperative Corporation stated that the allegations made by Smt. Ramalaxmi Gaduturi are unsubstantiated and the disciplinary actions taken were solely based on proven misconduct without any bias. She clarified that deputation appointments were necessitated due to acute staff shortages, with only 20% of sanctioned posts filled. She further stated that GCC's operational strategies continue to uphold its core mandate of tribal welfare and several staff welfare and organizational reforms have been undertaken. The representative present on behalf of the petitioner could not substantiate their claims.

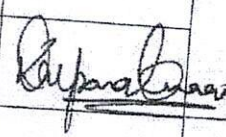
5. After discussion with the Managing Director, Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd and representative of the petitioner, it was observed that there is no merit in the case and hence the case should be closed. No further action is required in this case at this time.



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

F.No. NCST/DEV-4032/AP/153/2024-RO-BHUV/RU-III

List of participants of the sitting held on 06.05.2025 at 2:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu, Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST

Sl. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
I	National Commission for Scheduled Tribes		
1.	NCST Officials		
II	Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department, Gov of AP		
Sl. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
1.	MD GCC Kulpana Kumari		
III	Petitioner		