



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-6143/OR/153/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Dated:- 5.01.2026

To,

1. The Development Commissioner-cum-Addl. Chief Secretary Water Resources Department Government of Odisha Rajiv Bhawan, Keshari Nagar Bhubaneswar, District – Khordha (Odisha) - 751001	2. The Collector & District Magistrate Balangir At & Post & District - Balangir (Odisha)
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Sub: Representation dated 16/10/2025 of Smt. Subarna Bariha, W/o Late Kartika Bariha, Village – Kumiapali, Post- Rengali, PS & District – Balangir, Odisha regarding allegation of loss of property and endanger life due to the back waters of flood waters of Lower Suktel Dam.

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sitting held on 17.12.2025 under the chairmanship of Shri Jathothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) at New Delhi on the above mentioned subject.

It is requested that the action taken/ to be taken in the matter may be submitted to NCST within stipulated time from receipt of the letter, for placing it before Hon'ble Commission.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy)
Director
Ph No. 011-20819841

Copy for information:-

1. Smt. Subarna Bariha
W/o Late Kartika Bariha, Village - Kumiapalli, Post - Rengali,
PS & District – Balangir (Odisha) - 767024
2. PS to Hon'ble Member (JI), 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 Jatotu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi in the case of Smt. Subarna Bariha, W/o Late Kartika Bariha, Village – Kumiapali, Post- Rengali, PS & District – Balangir, Odisha regarding allegation of loss of property and endanger life due to the back waters of flood waters of Lower Suktel Dam.

NCST/DEV-6143/OR/153/2025-RO-BHUV/RU-III

Date of the Sitting: 17/12/2025, 1:20 PM

Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure

Smt. Subarna Bariha, Village- Kumiapali, Post- Rengali, District- Balangir vide representation dated 16.10.2025 has stated that she lost her entire agricultural land and house due to submergence caused by the Lower Suktel Dam and further suffered severe damage on 27.09.2025 when floodwaters entered her dwelling at night, destroying the structure and all belongings including food grains, livestock, utensils, cash and her daughter's important documents. She submits that although rehabilitation assistance was received during her husband's lifetime, no compensation has been paid till date for agricultural land, trees and ponds recorded in the name of her late husband for which she is the lawful successor. She claims the district administration has not provided any relief despite her written complaint to the Collector and seeks compensation, loss assessment and ex-gratia payment, stating that as a widowed ST woman she lacks financial means and needs support to secure her daughter's future.

2. NCST vide notice dated 16.12.2024 sought facts and comments from the Development Commissioner Cum-Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha and Collector & District Magistrate, District Balangir within 15 days from receipt of the Notice.

3. The Collector & District Magistrate, Balangir, vide letter no. 4294/ Judl dated 29.10.2025, has submitted that all land at Kumiapali was lawfully acquired and handed over for the project and rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 9,60,306 was paid to her late husband on 07.01.2023, along with allotment of a homestead plot. It further notes that house compensation of Rs. 1,77,746/- has already been paid to the petitioner, while compensation (Rs. 1,39,190/-) for agricultural land and trees is ready for disbursement upon submission of legal heir documents, as several co-sharers have already received their shares. The administration asserts that submergence occurred after full displacement and compensation, that any flood-related additional loss can be assessed separately upon a proper claim and that no delay or violation has occurred on part of the authorities.

4. The reply was not satisfactory, hence, NCST decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 17.12.2025. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 08.12.2025. The Development Commissioner-cum-Addl. Chief Secretary, D/o Water Resources, Govt. of Odisha vide letter dated 12.12.2025 has sought exemption and deputed the Director, R&R of the Department to attend the sitting.

5. In the sitting, the Collector & District Magistrate, District –Balangir and Director (R&R), D/o Water Resources, Govt. of Odisha were present. The petitioner joined through Video Conference. The petitioner reiterated her submission and stated that the compensation has not been given to the loss of assets due to back water of flood water of Lower Suktel Dam on 27.09.2025 at 10:00 PM. The officer of District Administration has also reiterated the facts submitted by the District Administration vide letter dated 29.10.2025 and stated that the losses due to unforeseen flooding can be assessed separately, if the petitioner submit a detail claims with evidence. It was also informed that the officers of Department met the affected family on 13.12.2025.

जाटोतु हुसैन / Jatotu Hussain
सदस्य / Member
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

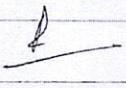
6. After discussion with the officers of District Administration of Balangir, the Director (R&R), D/o Water Resources, Govt. of Odisha and petitioner, the following recommendations were made and action taken report thereon may be submitted to NCST within 30 days from receipt of the Minutes.

- The District Administration is advised to convene a meeting with the affected family members for disbursement of compensation and in case of sharing of the compensation the pro-rata share may be worked out and those who agree and come forward may be provided their share with an undertaking rather than the inordinate delay and consequent issues of vulnerable ST Families.
- The petitioner is also advised the meet the District Collector & Magistrate, Balangir at the earliest possible date for release of compensation and other issues.

(Jatothu Hussain)

जाटोतु हुसैन / Jatothu Hussain
सदस्य / Member
राष्ट्रीय अनुशासित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

List of participants of the sitting held on 17.12.2025 at 1528.... under the chairmanship of Shri Jatotu 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>Water Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha</u>			
Sr. No.	Name, Designation and Address	Phone No.	Signature
1	Aslam Khan Bector Director (R&R) Depy.	9437230680	
III <u>District Collector, District - Balangir</u>			
1.	Gaurav Patelwar, Collector, Balangir	Balangir, Odisha 9420451938	
2.			
IV <u>Petitioner</u>			