



SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN  
CHIEF MINISTER  
MADHYA PRADESH

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D.O.No. 1273/CMO/12  
Dated 24/12/2012.

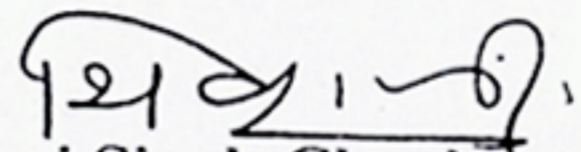
Dear Shri Jairam Ramesh ji,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.47322, dated 09-08-2012. Section 3(1)(C) of Forest Right Act, 2006 provides for "Rights of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of the minor forest produce which has been traditionally collected within or outside village boundaries". While bamboo is listed as a minor forest produce under FRA 2006, its removal is governed under Indian Forest Act, 1927. It has not been directly collected by the villagers in Madhya Pradesh, from the forests, either for domestic use or for sale.

Madhya Pradesh has been at the forefront in implementing the Joint Forest Management concept (JFM). The JFM Committees were allocated 20% of the net profit from bamboo harvest since 2001. The share was raised to 80% in 2005, while the remaining amount was earmarked for training of JFM Committee members, publicity and development of residential facilities for forest department's employees. Committees were required to spend twenty five percent of the amount allocated to them on forest development activities. However, we have taken a decision in 2012 by which the entire net profit, excluding taxes, will be distributed amongst the laborers engaged in bamboo harvesting. In this manner the bamboo collectors and wage earners have actually been made owners of the bamboo harvested through the JFM route despite their not allowed to be so under FRA 2006.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Shivraj Singh Chouhan)

Shri Jairam Ramesh,  
Minister for Rural Development,  
Drinking Water and Sanitation,  
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