

**Implementation Status Of Forest Rights Act, 2006 And Its Impact On The Livelihood
On Tribal People In Tripura****Biswajit Das****PhD Research Scholar****Department of Law****Kalinga University****Raipur****Chhattisgarh****(Received:10November2022/Revised:20November2022/Accepted:30November2022/Published:16December2022)****Abstract**

The schedule tribe and other traditional forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006 (FRA) was passed Government of India to recognise rights of forest during driving communities and it was notified on 1st January' 2008 on the jhumias of Tripura. The acts to positively impact on livelihood on tribal people in Tripura, but due to irregular implementation these goals was not fully achieved. Geographical area of Tripura is 10,491 Sq. Kms. out of which 7132.56 Sq. Kms (68% area) is under (Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council) TTAADC. Tribal people who are Socio-economically backward they mostly dependent on Forest Resources. The present study was conducted were FRA was implemented to achieve sustainable land utilization and to strengthen the socio-economic status of the Tribals of Tripura.

The study also attempts on the relevance and progress of implementation of FRA in Tripura along with initiative and benefit schemes of the government agencies to provide sustainable livelihood option through the convergence with FRA. The impact on livelihood improvement and socio economic condition was based on primary survey of 200 FRA beneficiaries households in one Tribal dominated Districts of Tripura i.e. Dhalai.

The people residing within TTAADC area mostly small, marginal farmers and landless jhumias. They are very much deprived of Education, HealthCare, Irrigation, Drinking Water and basic needs of life.

This people will also explain how the forest become the life streams for forest dwellers and how the act recognizes the traditional right, development of Tribal and development of Forest at the same time.

Keywords: Forest Rights, Tripura, Tribal Livelihood, Socio Economic Development, FRA 2006, Jhumias Sustainable, TTAADC

Introduction

At present, India has the second largest Tribal population in the world next only the Africa^{1}. Tribals people constitute 104 million i.e. 8.61% of the total population of India^{2}. Tripura, is the 3rdSmallest State, located in the North Eastern Region. Total population of Tripura is 36,71,032 out of which ST population is 31.05% {3}. Tripura merged with Indian Union after Independence on the 15thOctober, 1949 as Group-C Category State. It became Union Territory on 1st July 1963. Tripura State became a full-fledged State on 21stJanuary, 1972^{4}. However, the Parliament of India has enacted the Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 to "undo the Historical Injustice" suffered by Tribal Communities^{5}.

Before this Act, they have been labelled "encroachers" and evicted from the forest in the name of industrialization and Scientific Forest Management^{6}. This "Historical Injustice" has also lead to alienation of Tribals from their ancestral land which has weekend there social and economic status^{7}.At present, there is no comprehensive study that analysis the implementation of FRA and its impact on livelihood of Tribals people in Tripura thus it becomes important to bring forward the ground realities and issues with can be the possible causes of poor implementation and can from basis of learning for other status in India.

Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA)

FRA is based on decentralised model of Governance and it was expected to change the landscape of the forest by making the forest dwelling tribal communities a major stakeholder in forest conservation and management. The rights of forest dwelling Schedule Tribes (ST), who have been notified under the Indian Constitution and Traditional forest dwelling community organised under the Act. The Act empowers these communities by establishing clear property rights at the individual level and community levels^{8}.

Social Impact of FRA in Tripura

The Forest Rights Act (FRA) secures individual and common tenure over Forest Land and Forest of Tripura. Now TTAADC village council which authority under the act to determine Rights. This will includes rights over Tribal Land, Knowledge, System of Education, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Hill Sector, None which head legal protection prior to this Act in Tripura^{9}.

Study Area

In Tripura, FRA implementation was started in the year of 2008 with the aim of empowering the forest dependent Tribal people for recognising their Rights. The study was conducted in

the major Tribal population District in Tripura i.e. called Dhalai in the North East region of the Tripura State.

Objective Of The Study

- 1) The objective of the study is to understand the progress of the implementation in Tripura and the impact of the FRA Act on livelihood of Tribal people.
- 2) To access the degrees of their benefits after the introduction of Act in Tripura.
- 3) To identify ground realities and issues in respect of implementation of FRA during the study.

Methodology

The research work based on facts relatively from the primary data collected through designed and tested questionnaire schedule in the study area and also secondary data for the study was collected from different Departmental Agencies, Published Literature, Newspaper Articles, Government and Non-Government reports in addition to stakeholder interactions. A primary questionnaire survey of the tribal households was conducted. Data was collected regarding the livelihood conditions of the Tribals and improvement in their socio-economic condition after the implementation of FRA.

Table No. 1.1
Sample Size Of The Study

Sl. No.	District Of Tripura	Sub-Division	Total	Name Of The Sample Village	Total Village
1.	Dhalai	Longtraivelly Kamalpur Ambassa Gandachhara	4	Demchhara, Dakshin Dhhmchhara, Durgachhara, Mendi, Lembuchhara, Panbua, Paschim Nalichhara, Balaram, Lalchhari, Jagbandhu Para, Laxmipur, Purba Raima	12

In the above Table No. 1.1, I have selected one of the Tribals Dominant District i.e. Dhalai having 4 Sub-Division covering TTAADC 12 Villages out of which I have taken 12 TTAADC Villages for data collection.

Table No. 1.2
Sample Size Of The Study

Indicator	District	Sub-Division	Village	Selected FRA Family For Data Collection
In No's	1	4	12	3184 (31,843)

In Percentage	100	100	100	10
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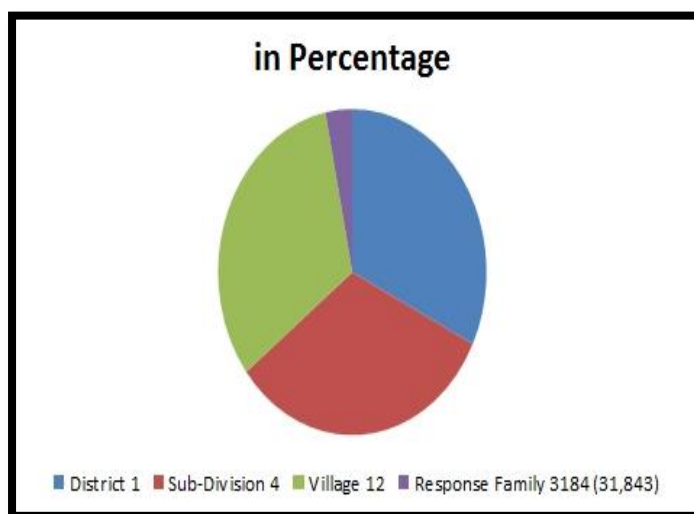


Figure No. 1.2 (A)

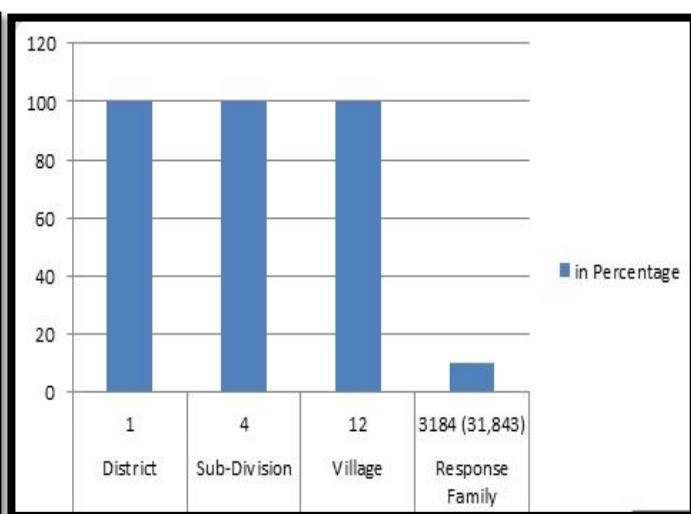


Figure No. 1.2 (B)

It shows in the above Table No. 1.2 and Figure No. 1.2 (A), Figure No.1.2 (B) that District, Sub-Division and village consider 100% and 3184 sample family were selected for data collection i.e. 10% out of the Total 31,843 FRA family available in the Dhalai District of Tripura.

Table No. 1.3

Nature Of Land Of Respondent Family

Sl. No.	Nature of Land	Response Family	Percentage (%)
1.	Tilla Land	1592	50
2.	Wet land	414	13
3.	Plain Land	383	12
4.	Slope Land	318	10
5.	Nal Land	254	8
6.	Water Body	223	7
TOTAL		3184	100

Figure No. 1.3 (A)

Figure No. 1.3 (B)

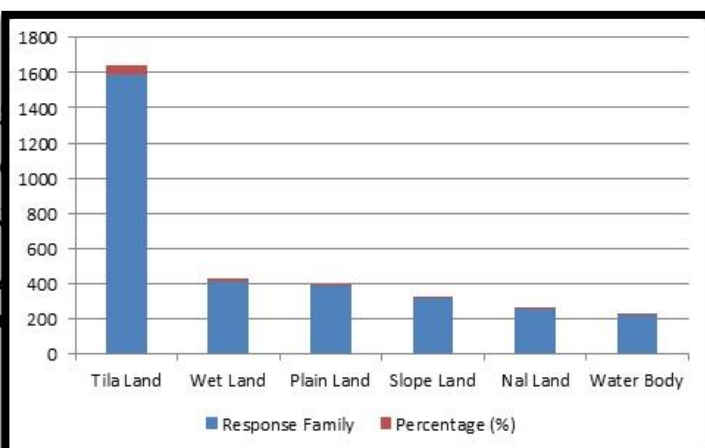
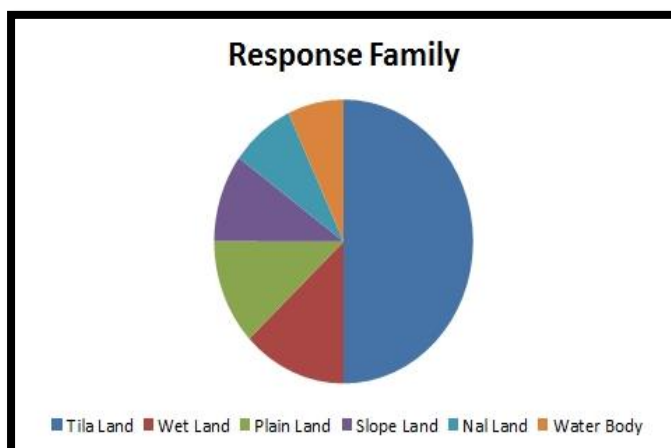


Table No. 1.4
Department Wise FRA Beneficiary Rate Among Respondent Family

Sl. No.	Name of Department from where benefit provided	Response Family	Percentage (%)
1.	Agriculture Department	987	31
2.	Forest Department	382	12
3.	Horticulture Department	350	11
4.	Fishery Department	318	10
5.	Animal Resource Dev. Dept.	159	5
6.	Tribal Welfare Dept.	96	3
7.	Handloom Handicraft and Sericulture Dept.	96	3
Sub Total		2388	75
8.	Benefit yet not Provided	796	25
GRAND TOTAL		3184	100

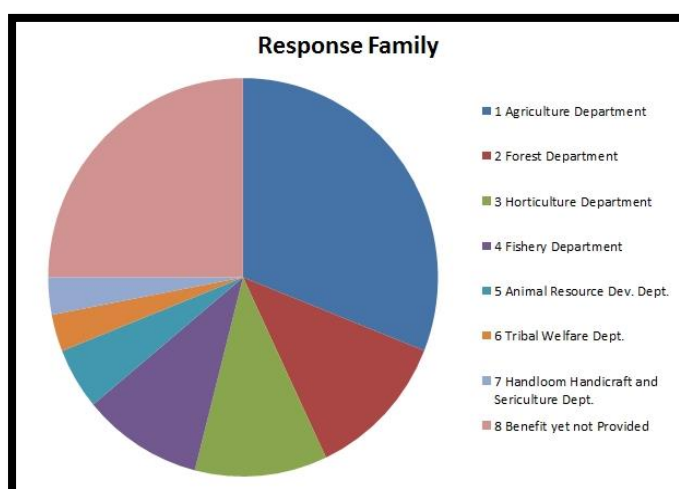


Figure 1.4 (A)

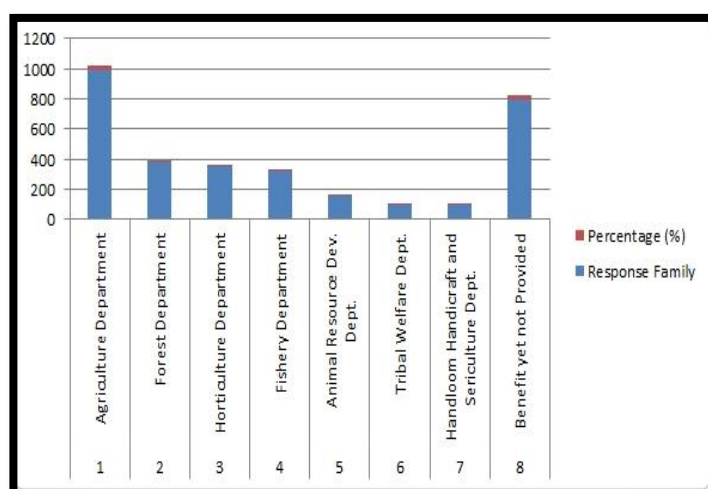


Figure 1.4 (B)

It is reveal from the above Table No. 1.4 and Figure No. 1.4 (A), Figure No. 1.4 (B) that out of the Total 3184 Respondent Family 31 Percent Benefit Provided from Agriculture Dept., 12 Percent from Forest Dept., 11 Percent from Horticulture Dept., 10 Percent from Fishery Dept., 5 Percent from Animal Resource Dept., 3 Percent from Tribal Welfare Dept., 3 Percent also from Handloom Handicraft & Sericulture and rest 25 Percent benefit yet not provided.

Result, Discussion And Findings

From the analysis of various aspect on field data some important finding have been identified, information of Patta Land under FRA, livelihood impact on production and practices. These are as follows:

- 1) Among the all Community, Tripura Community was found largest one in my study area 2nd largest is Reang and 3rd largest is Mog.
- 2) Most of the respondent's family average monthly income was recorded in between Rs. 10,000 to 20,000.
- 3) It is found that from the study more than 90 Percent respondents got FRA Patta Land from Government under FRA Act, 2006.

FRA Impact On Production And Practices

- 1) After implementation of FRA, practice of Jhum Cultivation in the study area has been reduced to some extent.
- 2) After implementation of FRA, average cultivated land has been increased in the study area to some extent.
- 3) After implementation of FRA, beneficiaries interest on livestock based S.T. forest dwellers livelihood like Poultry, Piggery, Goatery have been increased but assistance from Government yet not sufficient and also found that there is lack of technical supervision from the Government.
- 4) Lack of training and awareness building programme.

Conclusion

All though the Forest Rights Act, 2006 is a beneficial Legislation recognize and vest the Forest Rights and occupation in the Forest Land in Forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes, but in reality it has very less Tripura, as awareness and technical support is very poor.

The Socio-economic status of FRA beneficiary shows some improvement but the impact is too small to affect the overall development of the Tribal Population. For the Act to be successful in Tripura it is required that the awareness of the respect to the rights granted to them under the Act. The local participation towards sustainable land development should be encouraged as Tripura offers a large potential for sustainable commercial use of Forest Resources, especially in case of Bamboo Species, Horticulture and Medical Plants. Frequency of Training provided, Impact on the money spent and change in the Economic status. The State Government and Departmental agencies should plan and studies in the area so that further ground reality can be revealed.

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