

## **Discussion with Mediators**

### State Government

1. U. N. Behera,  
Principal Secretary,  
Home Department.
2. Sri S. N. Tripathy,  
Principal Secretary,  
Panchayati Raj Department.

### Mediators

1. Prof. G. Haragopal,  
Former Professor,  
Kakatiya University.
2. Prof. R. Someswar Rao,  
Former Professor,  
Sambalpur University.
3. Sri Dandapani Mohanty.

### Jointly agreed Press Statement (Day two : 21.02.2011)

The demands from the Maoists had come in shape of some television statements, pamphlets and inputs to the mediators. With the help of the mediators we have formulated them as 14 different issues. We have been discussing these issues since yesterday. We have so far come to agreement on the following issues based on specific government measures and decisions.

#### **Demand No.1 :**

Declare Nookadora, Kondareaddy communities as Scheduled Tribes.

#### **Response :**

The Government of Orissa in consultation with the Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) held on 10.04.2007 had recommended the communities like KONDA REDDY/ KONDA REDI for inclusion in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribe) order in respect of the State of Orissa. In this connection, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has been reminded by Government of Orissa from time to time.

So far as NUKA DORA/MUKA DORA/MOOKA DORA/NOOKA DORA is concerned the Research Team of SCST RTI has submitted a detailed report along with a recommendation for their inclusion in the ST list. The matter

will be placed in the next Tribes Advisory Council Meeting for consideration and recommendation to Government of India.

**Demand No.2:**

Stop Polavaram Project which is going to submerge villages in Orissa and Telangana.

**Response:**

Orissa State has been opposing the Polavaram Project in its present form. Accordingly, we have filed a case in Hon'ble Supreme Court against Andhra Pradesh Government, Central Water Commission and Government of India as the Polavaram Project with the present approved height and flood discharge design will severely affect large number of villages in Malkangiri District.

**Demand No.3 :**

Issue Pattas to the Tribals of Koraput, Malkangiri, Narayanpatna, Visakhapatnam whose lands have been illegally possessed by others.

**Response:**

State Government is alive to the need for protecting the land rights of tribal persons in scheduled areas. It has already taken a number of proactive measures to protect the interest of the tribal persons.

Senior officers in the rank of Additional/Joint Secretary with statutory powers under the land laws will be posted in the districts like Koraput and Malkangiri to expeditiously dispose the cases relating to land rights of tribal persons.

A High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of a senior officer will also be constituted to make recommendations on the measures for effective and expeditious restoration of rights of land to tribal persons in scheduled areas.



**Demand No.4 :**

Construct a canal from Kotapalli to Maneguda to provide irrigation facilities to Kalimela farmers.

**Response :**

(a) Extension of Canal from Kotapali to Maribada :

Regarding extension of canal from Katapali to Maribada in Kalimela Block, steps have already been taken to construct an aquaduct for extension of Katapali Minor Canal to Maribada village which can irrigate about 500 Ha. of additional land. The work on this extension will start soon. Rs.50.00 lakh has been earmarked for the Project.

(b) Extension of canal to Manemkonda :

Regarding providing irrigation to the left out agriculture land of Manemkonda village from Potteru Left Canal, detailed survey was done earlier and it was found not to be feasible because of higher elevation and difficult topography. However, one Minor Irrigation Project at Manemkonda has been constructed which is irrigating about 40 Ha. of land. Irrigation to about 40 Ha. of additional land in Manemkonda village through lift irrigation from the Minor Irrigation Project can be taken up. The work on Lift Irrigation Project will start soon. Further survey will be made to find out alternative sources of irrigation to Manemkonda area by Minor Irrigation Department.

**Demand No.5 :**

Due to torture by the Koraput jail authorities and lack of provision of health care Tadangi Gangulu and Ratanu Sirike have died. Pay compensation to their families.

**Response :**

Both of them have died while under treatment in the hospital. Writ Petitions have been filed in the Hon'ble Orissa High Court by the family members. Government have filed their response in these cases. Government will go by whatever order is passed by the Hon'ble High Court.

**Demand No.6 :**

Release central committee member Sheela'di who is suffering due to ill health and Padma who is in Chhattisgarh jail.

**Response :**

We are informed by Sri Dandapani Mohanty that Sheela'di is in Jharkhanda Jail and Padma is in Jagdalapur Jail of Chhattishgarh and that their health condition is not good. Since it has now been brought to our notice, State Government will write to the concerned state governments for necessary action.

**Demand No.7 & 8 :**

- Stop the mining operations and cancel the mining lease of Mali, Deomali Bauxite mines in Visakha district.
- Cancel all MoUs signed with various MNCs.

**Response :**

Our stand in these matters is that the relevant Laws and Rules such as PESA Act, Forest Conservation Act, Forest Rights Act and the Environment Laws should be strictly followed in letter and spirit. Displacement of tribals should be confined to the minimum and where displacement is absolutely necessary, it could be done by adequate compensation and proper rehabilitation.

The discussions will be resumed tomorrow and the rest of the issues will be resolved.

Though there are some adverse media reports in some section of the Press, we have been assured by the mediators that the health condition of Sri R. Vineel Krishna, Collector, Malkangiri is fine and that there is no cause for concern.

We have been further assured that there shall be no harm to Sri R. Vineel Krishna, Collector and Sri Pabitra Mohan Majhi, Junior Engineer.

We all are confident now that Sri Krishna and Sri Majhi will be released very soon.

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*R. V. Krishna*  
*S. P. Majhi*



*P. M. Majhi*  
*S. P. Majhi*