



Tribal Ethos & Economics Research Foundation

# Status of PESA in India

एक ग्रामवासी  
के नजरिये से

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# Natural village and its assembly



वांगडपाडा ग्रामसभा (जि. पालघर)

- Village exists since generations
- Together because of nature
- Together because of kinship & trust
- PESA Sec. 4(b) recognises this

Gramsabha: the one and only direct democracy



The fragments of an indigenous Local Government that are still to be traced in Indian village life seem to me full of interest and suggestion. They are, it need hardly be said, easily overlooked. One able collector of long service in Central India informed me that he had been, until a few months before, totally unaware that anything of the sort existed in any of the villages over which he ruled. But being led to make specific inquiries on the subject, he had just discovered, in village after village, a distinctly effective, if somewhat shadowy, local organization, in one or other form of panchayat, which was, in fact, now and then giving decisions on matters of communal concern, adjudicating civil disputes, and even condemning offenders to reparation and fine. Such a Local Government organization is, of course, “extra-legal,” and has no statutory warrant, and, in the eyes of the British tribunals, possesses no authority whatever. But it has gone on silently existing, possibly for longer than the British Empire itself, and is still effectively functioning, merely by common consent and with the very real sanction of the local public opinion.

## Why give it to village?

- Government by consent
- Trust built through natural growth
- Direct and basic interdependence
- Democracy deeper than ballot

For instance, in England as in France, we still habitually think of Democracy as being, or at least as necessarily involving, the Popular Election of representatives or rulers : the Indian village, like the Russian mir, may remind us that Vote by Ballot and Party Government are only two among several expedients for bringing administration under public control. We make much, in Western Europe and America, of Decision by Majority Vote : the Indian village offers us, like the Quaker meeting, a possibly higher alternative, if we believe in Government by Consent, in Decision by the General Sense of the Community.



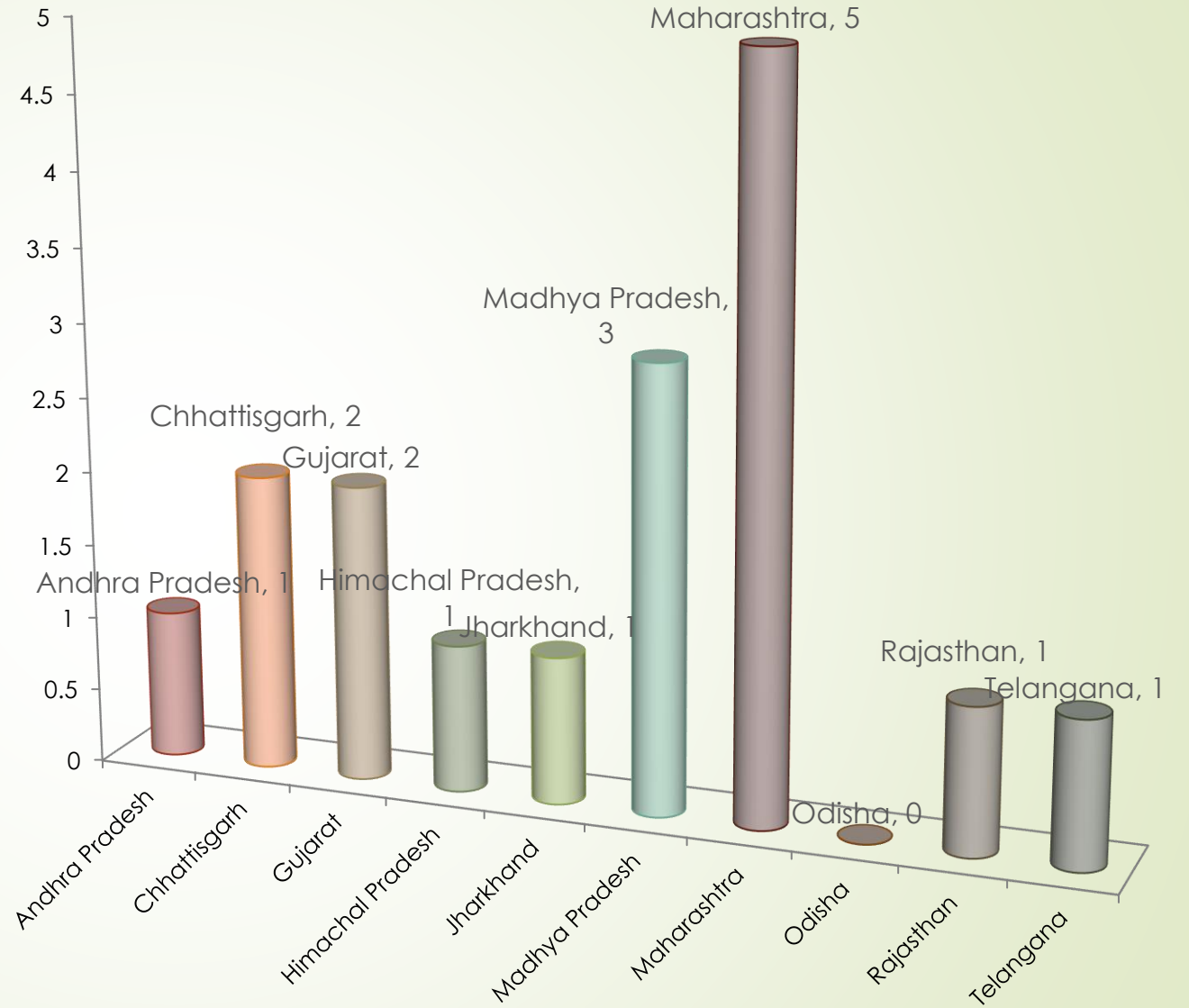
# Deliberation and Legislation in Gramsabha समूहविचार व निर्णय प्रक्रिया



- Smaller population, better discussion (छोटी जनसंख्या, बेहतर चर्चा)
- Agenda by people (लोक निर्धारित अजेंडा)
- Local president (स्थानीय अध्यक्ष)
- Deliberation in local language (लोकभाषा में चर्चा)
- Voices heard (सब की आवाज सुनी जायेगी)

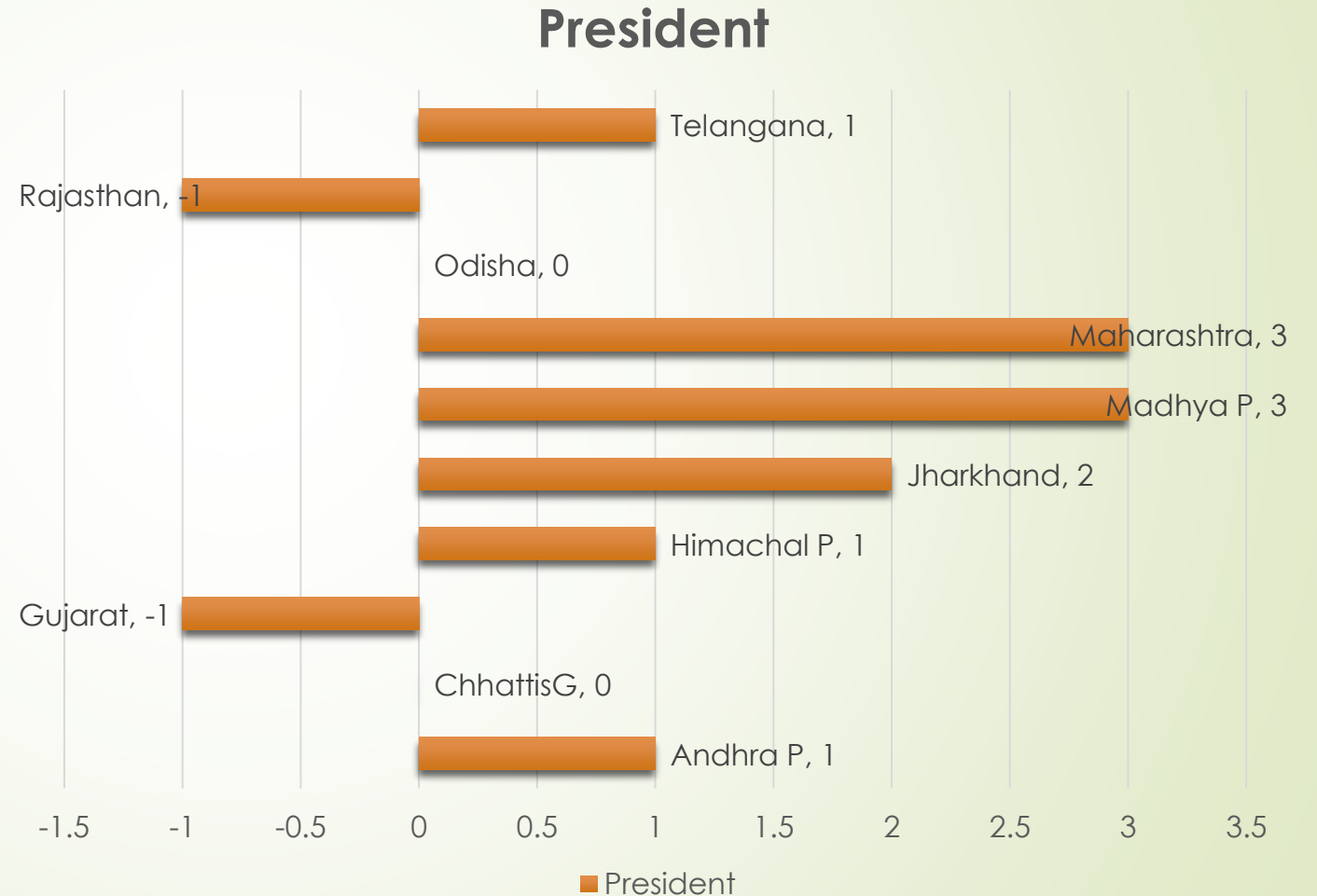
# Declaration / Notification of a Village

फला/फाल्या/गांव  
सरकार को  
दिखाई ही ना दें  
तो?



# Gramsabha President

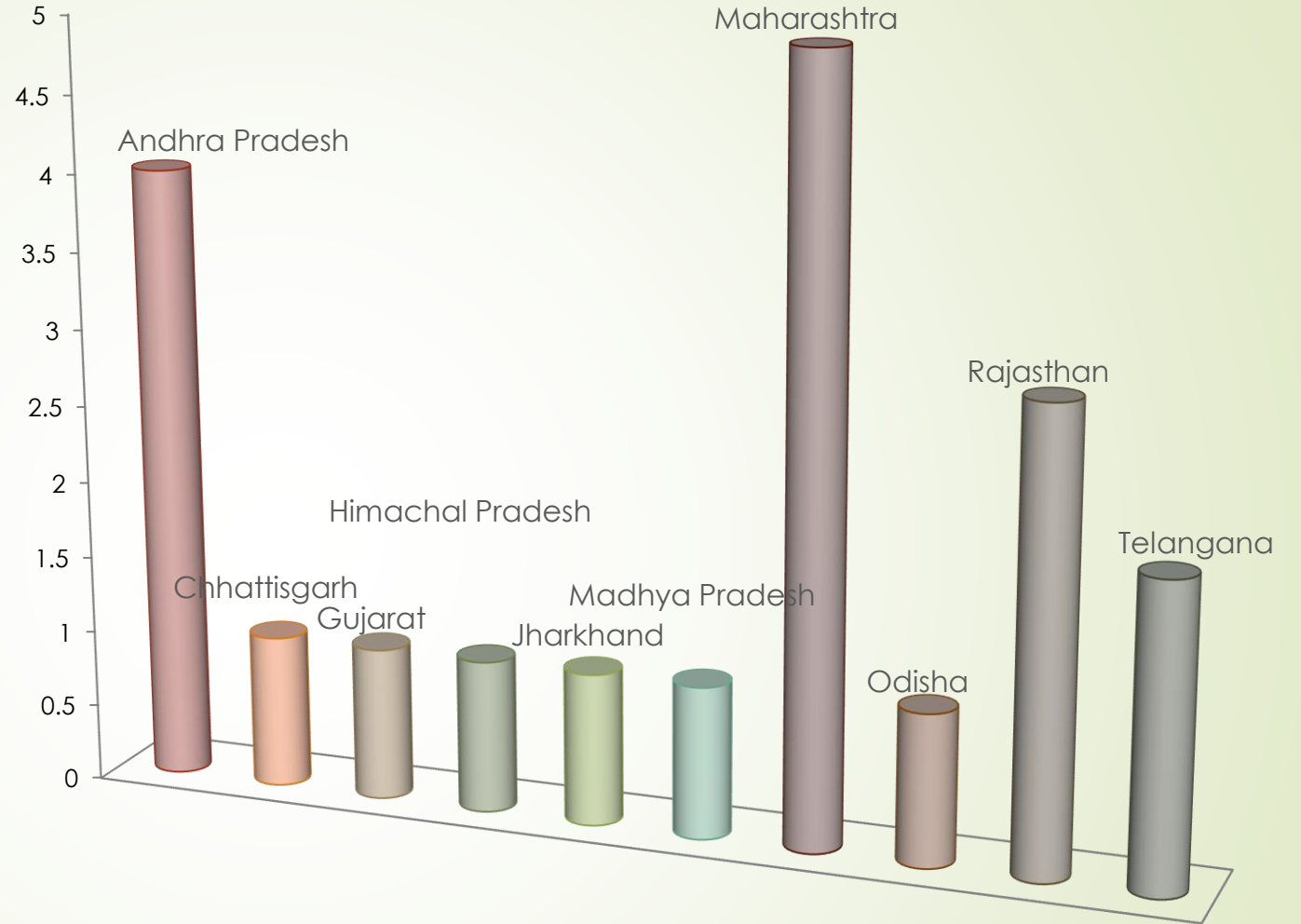
मुख्यमंत्री ही  
विधानसभा के  
अध्यक्ष होंगे,  
तो कैसा रहेगा?



Same person spending as GP Sarpanch, authorising and UC as president?

# Secretary of Gramsabha

अगर वह  
नहीं आया  
तो?

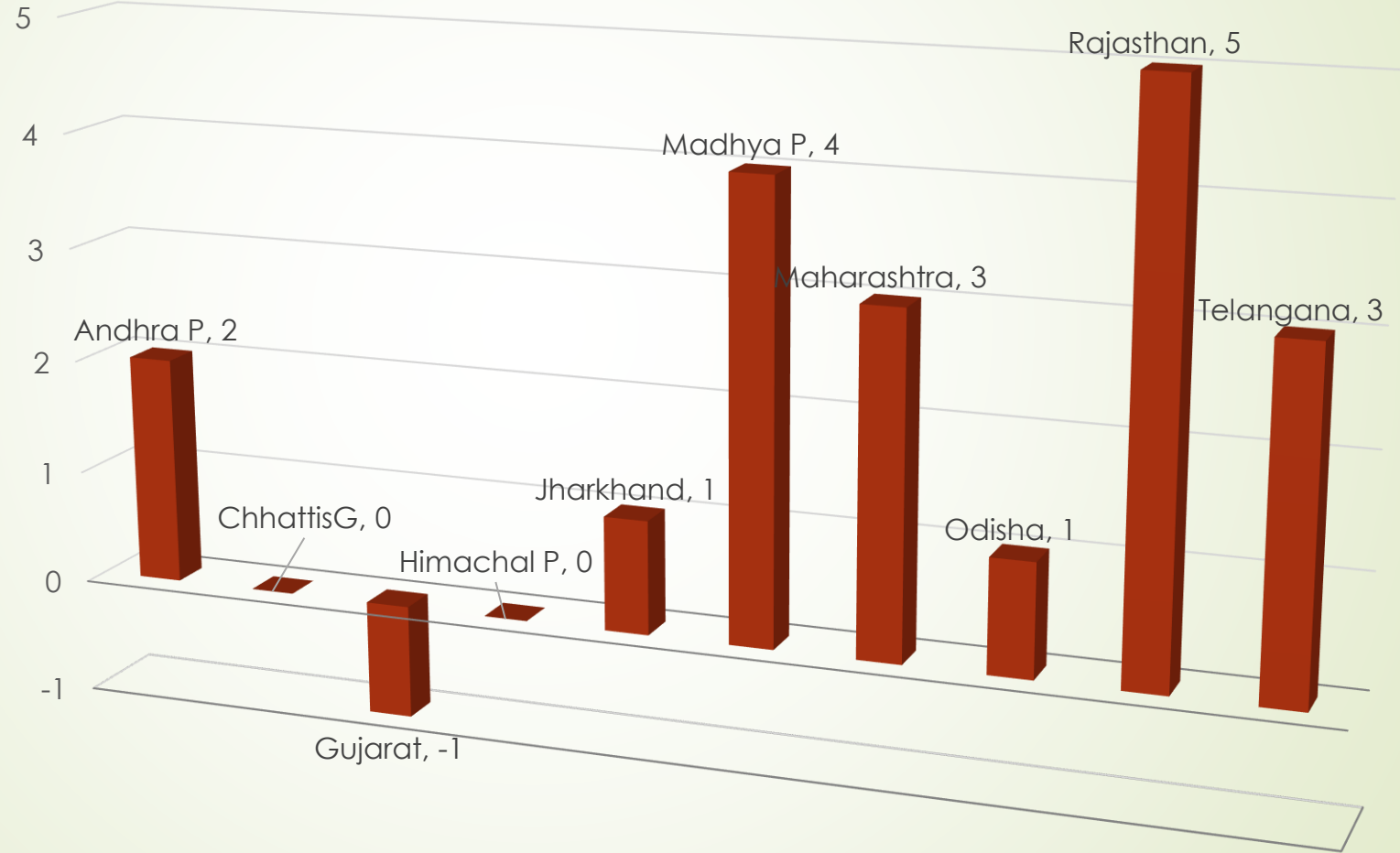


AP: secretary elected for 5 years, MH Alt, RJ: BDO to appoint alt



# Gramsabha meetings

जब सचिव चाहेगा तब, या लोग चाहेंगे तब?

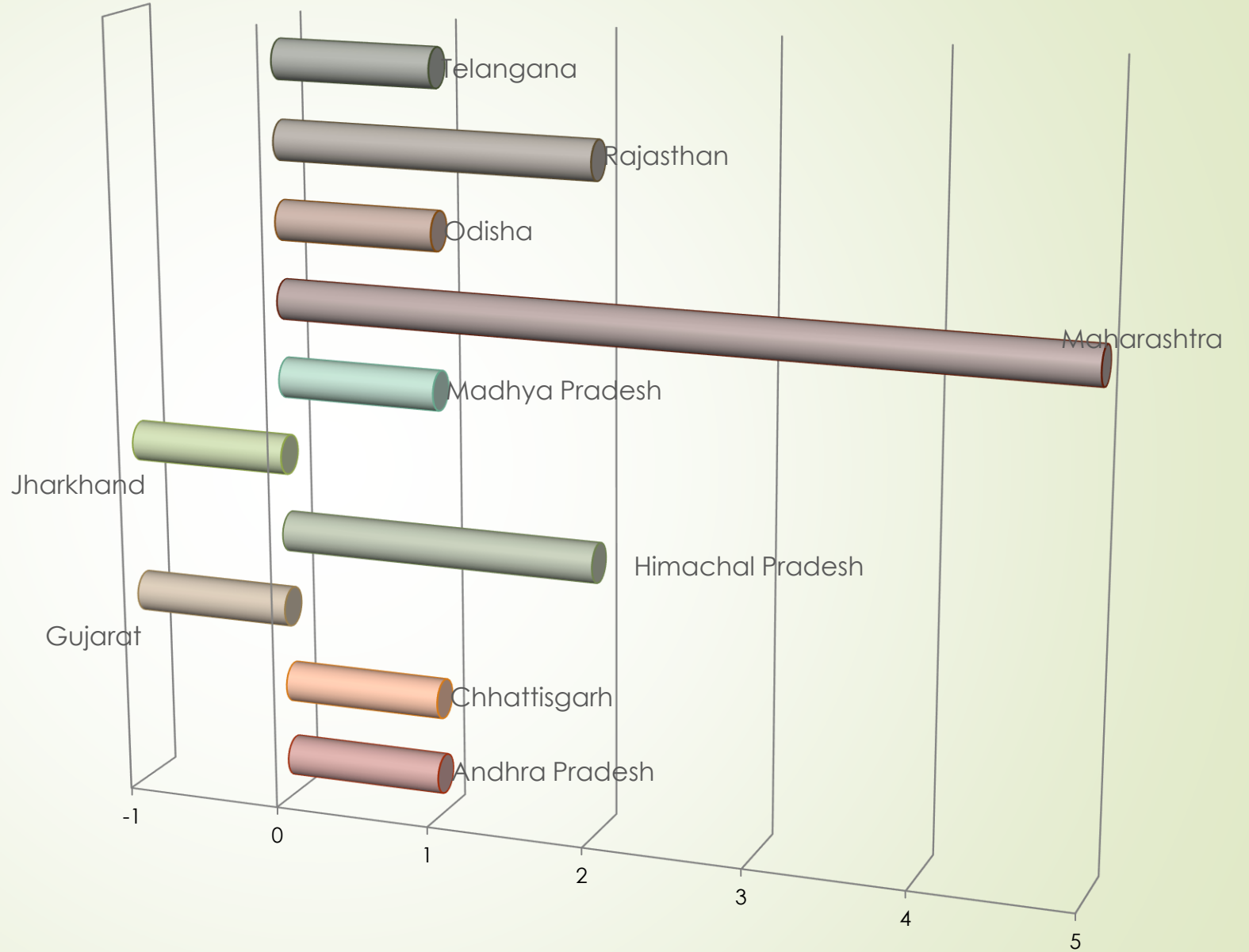


RJ: 1) fixing all dates in advance, 2) request by 5% members



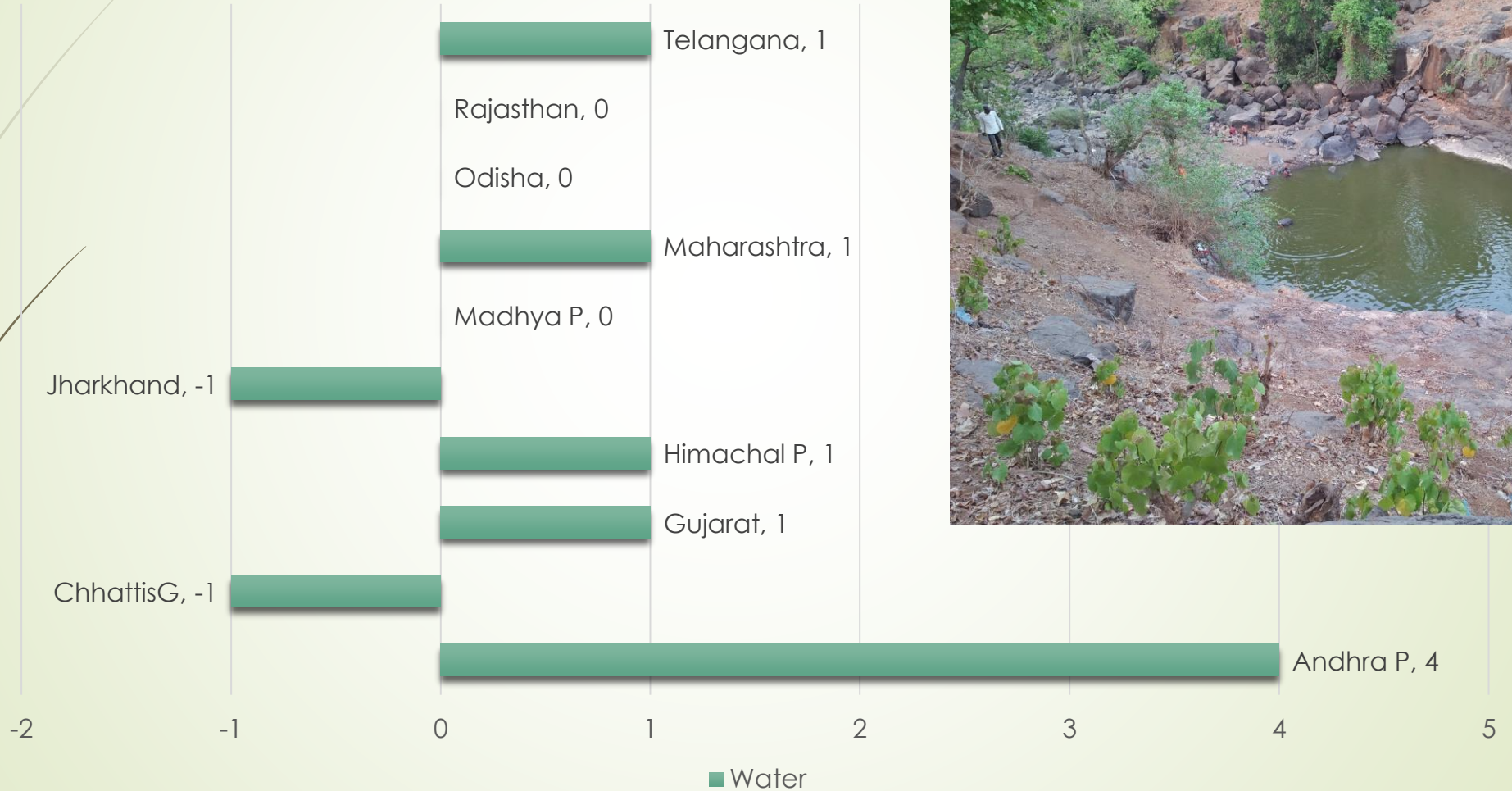
# Formation of committees

सचमुच काम करना है क्या?



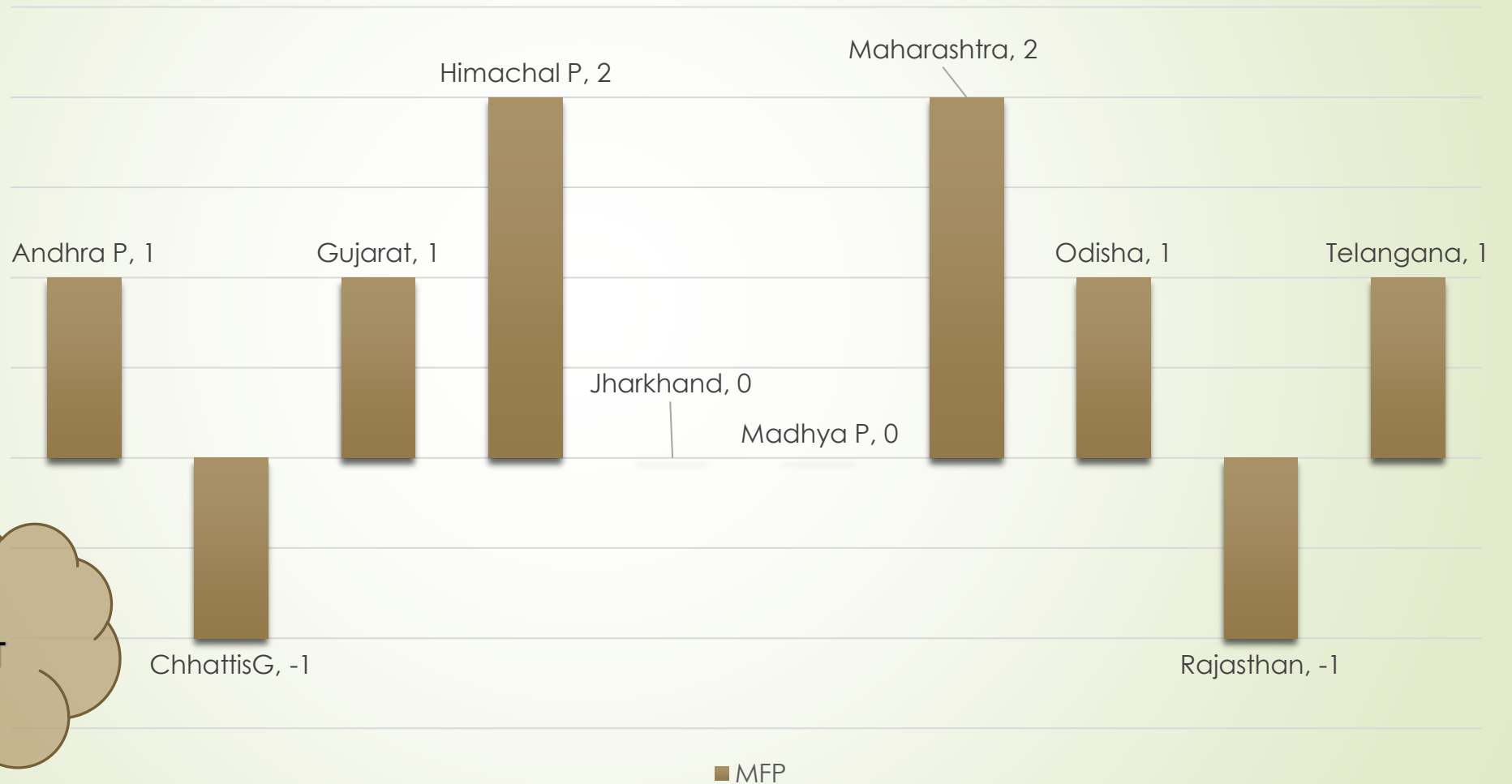
RJ peace committee, HP RMPC, MH nine

# Managing water bodies





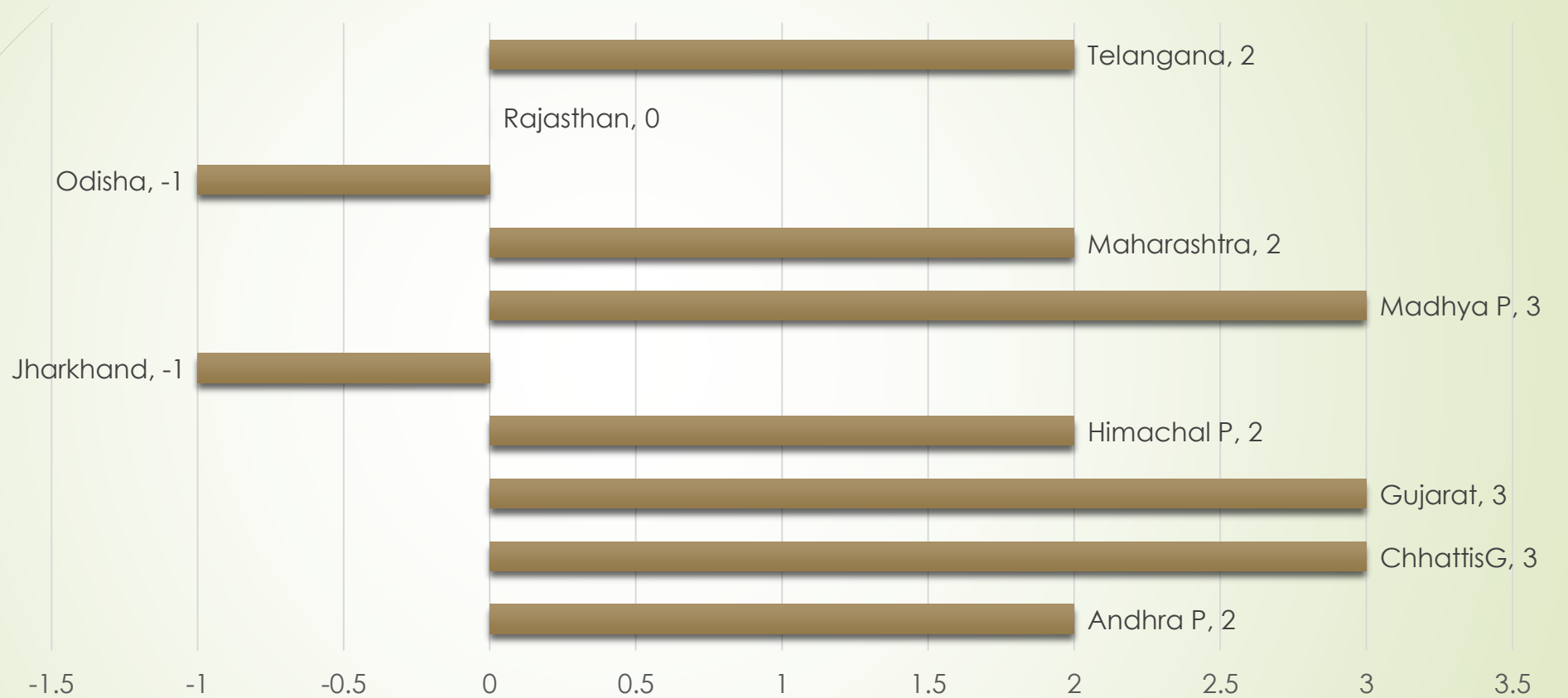
# Ownership of Minor Forest Produce



मालिक है,  
लेकिन हाथ  
बंधा हुआ?



# Land management



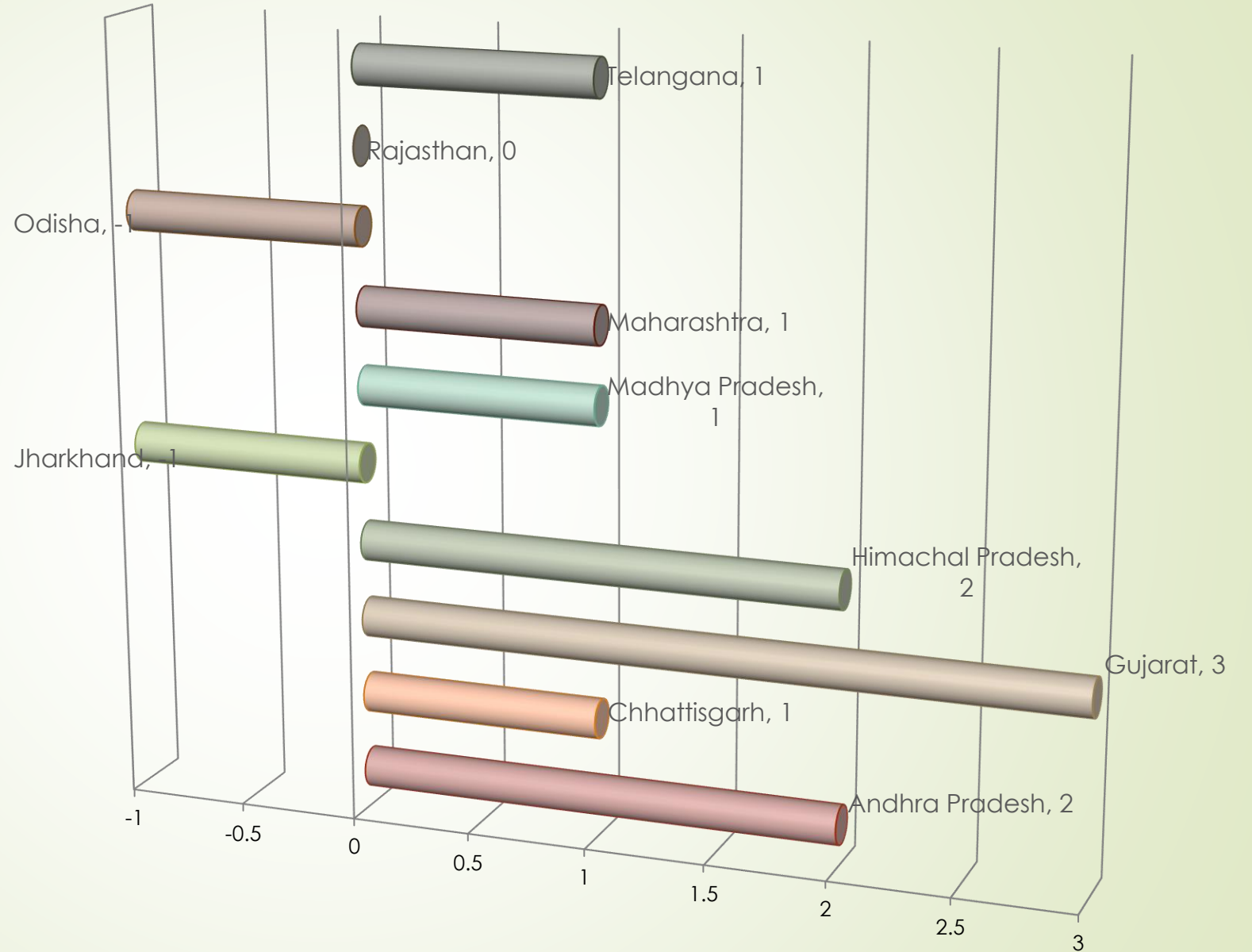
Acquisition: Consultation with Mandal PP in AP, OD consultation at ZP, MP prior consent of GS

GJ land records reading, AP elaborate procedure, CH SDO to take action, HP GS permission for transfer

TS elaborate procedure to prevent land alienation



# Minor minerals



GS approval mandatory for all excavations in GJ, Royalty to Panchayat fund in HP, Only ST-societies can mine in AP

# Control over intoxicants

## दारू / ताडी / हडिया पर नियंत्रण

- ➔ Raw materials, production, sale, purchase कच्चा माल, निर्मिति, खरीददारी विक्रय सब पर नियंत्रण
- ➔ Non-renewal of licenses / परमिट पर भी नियंत्रण
- ➔ Variety of rules अपने हिसाब से नियम

## रोजपाडात दारूबंदीचा निर्णय

महिलांचा पुढाकार, दारूबंदीसाठी प्रभातफेरी काढून जनजागृती

**जव्हार: पुढारी वृत्तसेवा**

दादरानगर हवेली सिल्वासा या केंद्र शासित प्रदेशाला लागून असलेल्या जव्हार तालुक्यातील तलासरी ग्रामपंचायत हद्दीतील रोजपाडा हा सिल्वासा या केंद्र शासित प्रदेशाला लागून असल्याने या पाड्यात रोजच दारूचे अड्डे चालविले जात होते. तसेच रोजच दमण दारूची विक्री केली जायची, तसेच या दारू बंदीमुळे अनेकांचे संसार उडवस्त झाल्याच्या घटना घडल्या आहेत. मात्र वयंम चळवळीच्या सहकार्यामुळे गावातील महिलांनी दारू बंदीचा ठोस निर्णय घेत, रोजपाड्यात दारू बंदीची घोषणा देत, प्रभात फेरी काढून दारू बंदीची जनजागृती करण्यात आली.

रोजपाडा गावात ७२ आदिवासी राहत कुटुंब असून, या पाड्यात दारूमुळे दारूड्यांनी हेदोस घातला होता. दारूमुळे वाद निर्माण होवून, रोजच गावात भांडण व्हायची. मात्र वयंम चळवळीच्या नेतृवाखाली पेसा गावं घोषित करून, गावात मीटिंग घेण्यात आली. या सभेत दारू बंदीचा निर्णय घेण्यात आला. विशेष करून दारू बंदीसाठी महिलांनी पुढाकार घेवून, रोजपाड्यात रोज पाडणाऱ्या दारू बंदीचा निर्णय घेतला आहे. रोजपाड्यातील ७० ते ८० आदिवासी महिलांनी गावात प्रभात फेरी काढून, दारू बंदीची जनजागृती करण्यात आली. या निर्णयात पुरुषही सहभागी झाले होते.

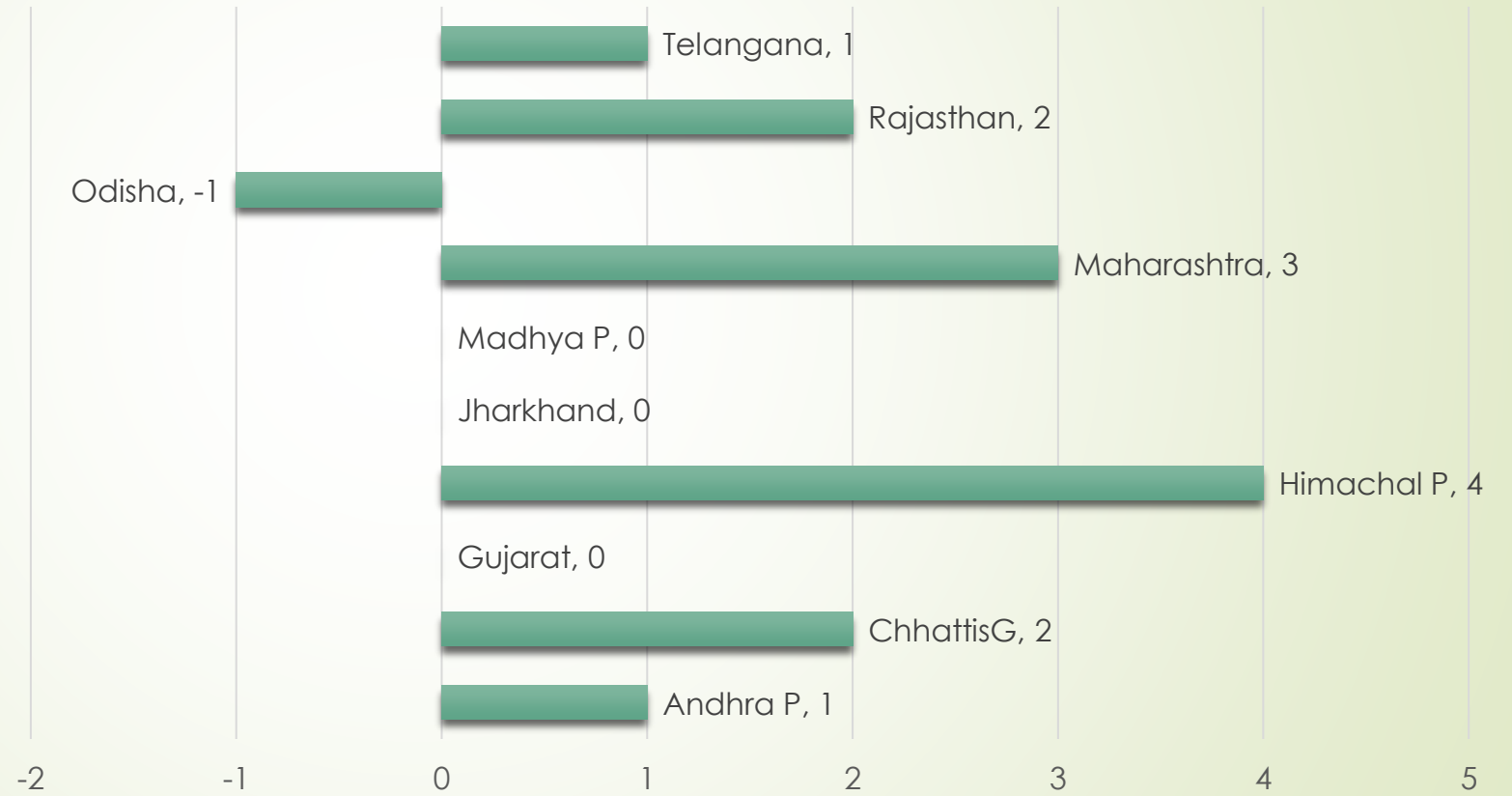
दारू बंदी करताना गावात शांतात कमिटीची नेमणूक करण्यात आली आहे. रोजपाड्यातील महिलांचे कौतुक होत आहे. दारूबंदी अन्य निर्णयासाठी नेमण्यात आलेली कमिटीचे अध्यक्ष सुमन बोंबा, उपाध्यक्ष आसम्या रोज,



प्रमिला पागी, संजू रोज, रुक्षणा रोज, बिजली सुर्य, मीना रोज, पोवनी रोज असा अनेक महिला या कमिटीत असून, त्यात निर्माण घेण्यात आला आहे. रोजपाड्यात दारू बंदीचा निर्णय घेतल्याने या महिलांचे तालुक्यातून कौतुक केले जात आहे.

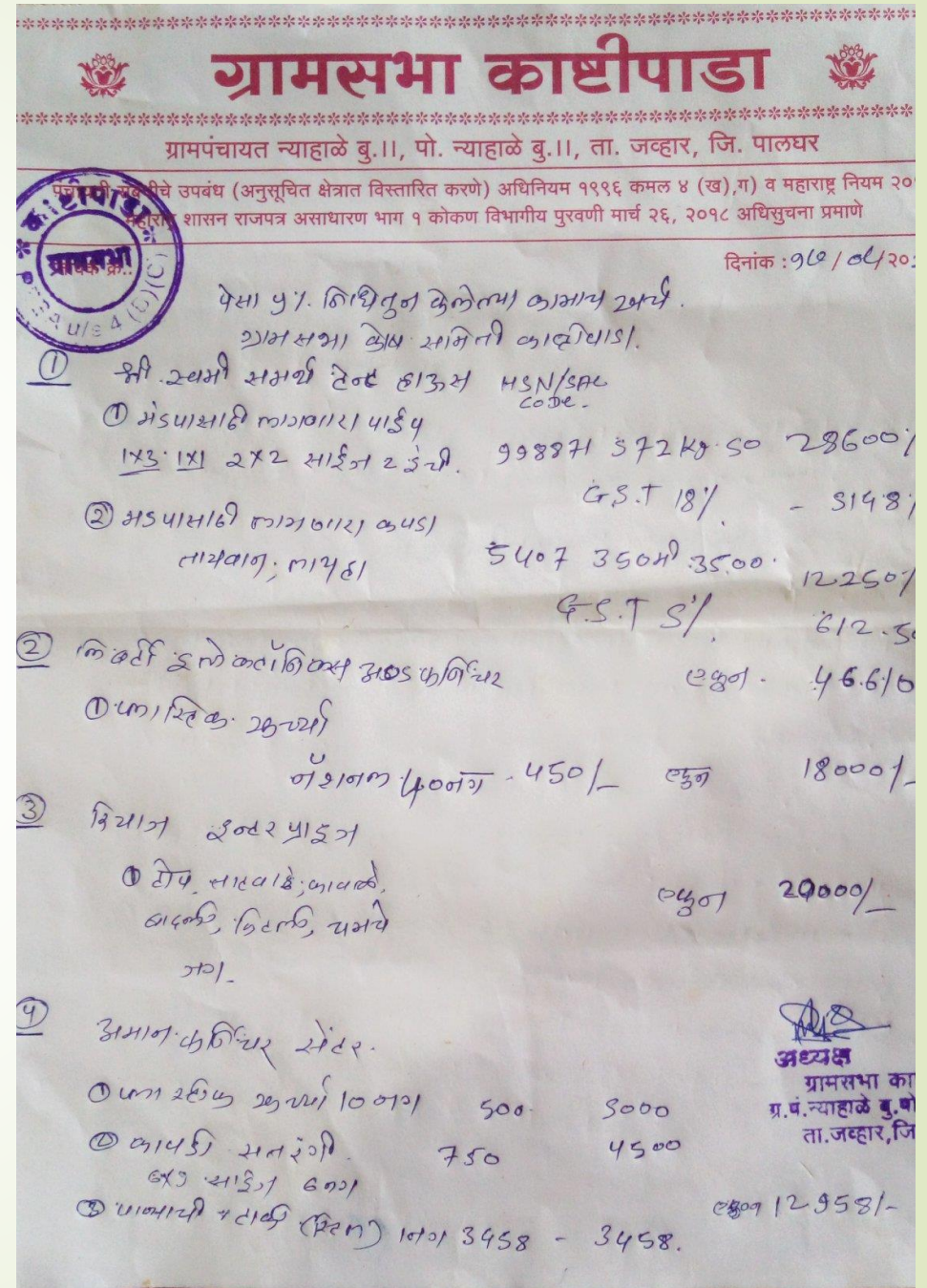


# Control intoxicants



# Transparency & accountability easy पारदर्शिता व उत्तरदायित्व आसान

- President other than Sarpanch सरपंच से अलग अध्यक्ष
- Training in writing proceeding इतिवृत्त लेखन का प्रशिक्षण
- Training in writing expenses जमा खर्च लिखने का प्रशिक्षण
- Transparency in GS spending ग्रामसभा खर्चे का खुला पठन
- Demanding the same from GP and government ग्रा.पं. व सरकार से वही अपेक्षा करना





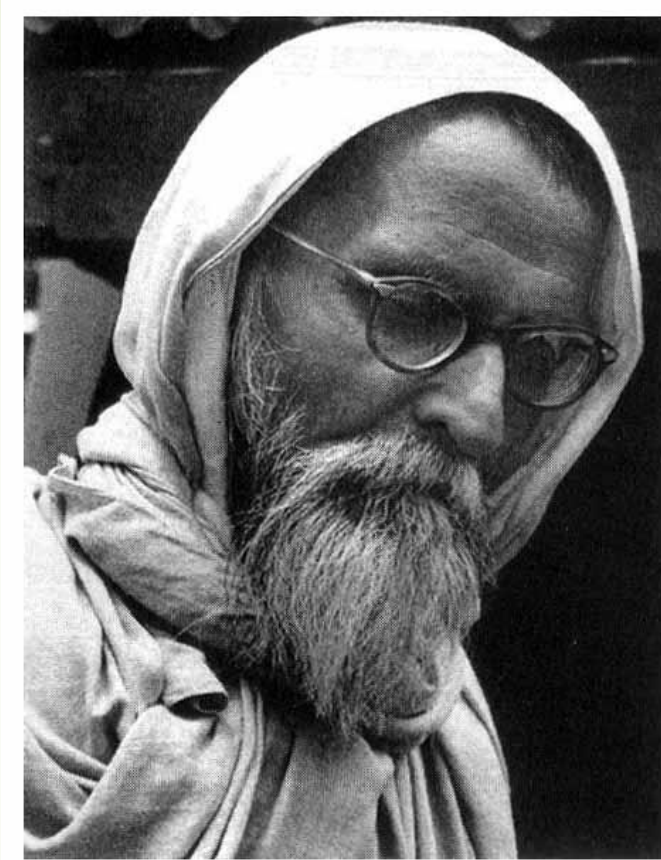
# Control over funds and functionaries

- ▶ AP: control with Mandal PP (Rule 8(VI)(i)) control over TSP does not mention Gramsabha
- ▶ Utilisation certificate required: in RJ, MH, AP, GJ, OR
- ▶ Maharashtra: Transfer of 5% TSP fund to Gramsabhas





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“Bharat was an independent country of independent villages.

With Mughal invasion, we became a slave country with independent villages.

With British invasion, Bharat became a slave country of slave villages

After British left, Bharat became an independent country but of slave villages.

We must strive to make Bharat an independent country with independent villages.”

- Vinoba



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