A Report
on
National Conference on PESA Act

26th September, 2024
Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
Ministry of Panchayati Raj, GoI

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National Conference PESA Act, 26th September, 2024

1.Introduction:

1.1 The Ministry of Panchayati Raj organised a National Conference on PESA Act on 26thSeptember, 2024 in New Delhi at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

1.2 The Conference brought together approximately 500 Elected Representatives across the three tiers, Government officers from the State Panchayati Raj Department and other concerned line departments implementing PESA, State-level Master trainers from the State Institute of Rural Institutions at the grassroots level. Participation from ten PESA States are Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana was enthusiastic.

1.3 Representatives from NGOs such as Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram (ABVKA), Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan, BAIF Development Research Foundation, TEER Foundation and Transforming Rural India Foundation (TRIF) also participated in the Conference. The list of participants is at Annexure I. Live telecast of the Conference was also done through the Webcast link. The detailed schedule of the Conference is at Annexure II.

1.4 The presence of elected representatives, relevant government officials and civil society representativesaimedatemphasisingtheimportantimplementationbottlenecksandthecreative suggestions for effective implementation of the PESA Act, 1996.

2.Inaugural Session:

2.1 The Conference was inaugurated by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The event was graced by the presence of the following dignitaries - Shri Durgadas Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Danasari Anasurya (Seethakka), Hon'ble Minister, Department of Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, Government of Telangana and Shri. Anirudh Singh, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Himachal Pradesh at the inaugural session.

Hon'ble Ministers from MoPR and MoTA and other Senior officers

2.1 Session-I: Inaugural Session

2.1.1 The inaugural session started with lamp lighting and the welcome of dignitaries.

Lamp Lighting by the Hon'ble Ministers and Senior Government Officials

2.1.2 This was followed by a welcome address by Ms. Mamta Varma, Joint Secretary, Policy Division, MoPR through a brief presentation highlighting the basic statistics of PESA area coverage in the 10 States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana. She then elaborated on the following actions taken by the Ministry for the implementation of the PESA Act, 1996:

i. Conducting of One-day National Conference on the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 held in November 2021.

ii. Engagement with the States including Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha towards formulation of Rules on PESA.

Welcome Address by Ms Mamta Varma

iii. Two-day Regional Conferences in Pune & Ranchi in January & March, 2024 respectively.

iv. Stakeholders' engagement in preparing the PESA Training Manual.

v. Constitution of seven Committees namely (1) Prevention of Land Alienation; (2) Strengthening Gram Sabha; (3) Control over Money Lending; (4) Customary Mode of Dispute Resolution;(5) Prohibition/Regulation of Sale of Intoxicants; (6) Minor Forest Produce; and (7) Minor Minerals.

vi. Training Manuals prepared for imparting training to various stakeholders / key persons for effective implementation of PESA Act/Rules.

vii. Training of SLMTS conducted using the Training Manual involving key stakeholders like (a) State Level Master Trainers (b) State Panchayati Raj Department (c) State Tribal Department (d) Forest Department (e) State Legal Department. The topics that have been covered so far are (1) Strengthening of PESA Gram Sabha (2) Minor Forest Produce (3) Minor Minerals and (4) Prevention of Land Alienation. Further three training sessions are scheduled in October 2024 in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Odisha.

viii. PESA Village-level planning will now be mapped on PESA-GPDP Portal in e-GramSwaraj. This will enable (a) comprehensive village-level planning; (b) capturing thematic and PESA focus area-wise activities; (c) record development works assigned to PESA villages; and (d) track financial allocation and actual expenditure for development activities.

ix. Launch of PESA Profiler i.e. PESA Gram Panchayat Profiler has been planned, which will capture key focus areas such as (a) strengthening Gram Sabha; (b) customary dispute resolution; (c) prevention of land alienation; (d) enforcement of prohibition and intoxicant; (e) sale management of minor forest produce; and (f) miner minerals. Each focus area will have specific questionnaires capturing detailed information.

x. At the end of her address, she laid down the following short-term and long-term outputs expected from this conference

A. Short Term: Enhancing Devolution of Funds:

(i) States may explore the way in which Maharashtra Panchayati Raj Act has been amended to give Gram Panchayats control over local plans and Tribal Sub Plans resources.

(ii) 5% of Tribal Sub Plan funds to be directly devolved to Gram Panchayats in Scheduled Areas.

(iii) Saturation of stakeholders' training based on the modules prepared by MoPR.

B. Long Term:

(a) Harmonization of existing Central Laws:

(i) Amendments in the legislation to harmonise and bring such laws in consonance with the PESA Act.

(ii) Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

(iii) Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act,1957.

(iv) Biodiversity Act.

(b) Harmonization of State Laws:

(i) Amendments in State Acts to harmonize and bring them in consonance with PESA Act.

(ii) State Excise Act/Rules.

(iii) State Minor Mineral Rules.

(iv) State Land Acquisition /Land Transfer Rules.

(v) State Money Lending Act/ Rules etc.

2.1.2.1 The welcome address ended with a brief on the three-panel discussion sessions and informed about the demonstration by NIC on the PESA-GPDP Portal, along with an open session for 15-20 minutes to discuss any issues. She further look forward towards a robust discussion where participants put out the issues that they see are important.

2.1.3 This was followed by **Shri Malay Srivastava, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh** addressing the audience. He started by appreciating the efforts of the MoPR for organising a National level Conference on PESA having interactive and experience-sharing sessions. He further appreciated the MoPR's effort in constituting seven committees consisting of government officials on different subject matters about PESA areas. As far as the State of Madhya Pradesh is concerned, it was part of the "Control over Money Lending" Committee. Regarding the implementation of PESA Rules in the State, he highlighted the following:

i. Notification of Rules on PESA was done in Madhya Pradesh in 2022.

ii. Although the implementation of PESA Rules lies with the Department of Panchayati Raj in the State however, the participation of 3-4 related Departments becomes crucial for its effective implementation.

iii. In terms of community rights or mining rights in PESA areas, elected representatives in those regions need to be made aware of their special roles and responsibilities.

iv. The Act empowers that in a village more than one Gram Sabhas may be conducted if the communities are of different tribes and their customs are different from one another.

v. For the effective implementation of the PESA Act, relevant line departments need to be activated and more local-level Gram Sabhas need to be effectively organised.

Address by
Shri Malay Srivastava

2.1.4 Highlighting the fact that the PESA Act came into effect 28 years ago and after two years it will be completing 30 years of its implementation, **Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj started his address on the importance of PESA for Local Governance in the Vth Schedule Areas**. His address touched upon the three board categories of PESA Act implementation i.e. (i) what was the process mechanism behind the Act, (ii) what has been achieved from this law and (iii) how much the tribal communities have been empowered through its implementation. With the enactment of this law, it was thought to bring two different administrations–one of the traditional administrations of tribal communities and the other of the structure of elected representation in PRI bodies. However, not all States have formed their respective rules. But, due to continuous and serious persuasion by this Ministry in the last few years, most States have formed their own rules for the implementation of the Act. As far as the short coming of this Ministry is concerned, in the last three years only one National Conference was conducted. In the current financial year the Ministry has organised three Conferences on PESA topics. These Conferences have been designed to engage in cross-learning and experience-sharing processes among the stakeholders including MoPR. Other shortcomings in PESA implementation are as follows:

Address by
Shri Vivek Bharadwaj

i. In the last financial year, MoPR in collaboration with States conducted 75000 training approximately, across the PESA States. However, not a single one was conducted on PESA. It meant that 10% of the population i.e. residing in the PESA areas have been left out of the capacity building initiatives.

ii. Elected representatives have the right to learn and understand through capacity- building training using appropriate manuals. However, until recently there were no manuals related to the PESA subject areas based on which training on PESA subject matters could be provided.

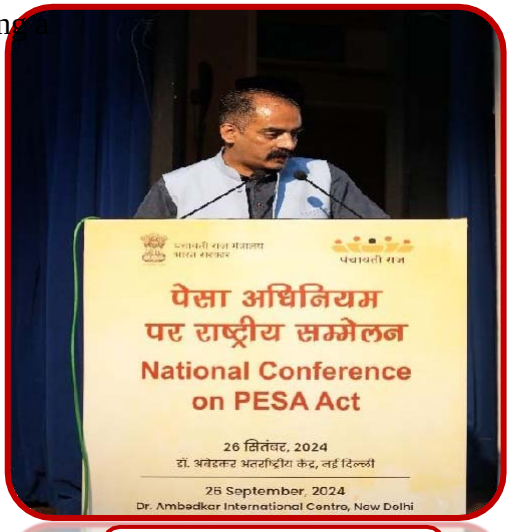
iii. Limited information among the tribal communities regarding the PESA Acts and powers vested upon them regarding their rights on mining, forest and land

rights relating to purchase, etc. Therefore, PESA implementation still remains uneven on the ground.

iv. Under the *e*GramSwaraj Portal, Gram Panchayat Development Plans prepared by the Gram Panchayats are being captured. Since PESA village-wise planning is considered as a planning unit, therefore, PESA village-wise plans are not being mapped in the *e*GramSwaraj Portal. This ignores their specific development needs. However, the time has come to amend the portal and recognise PESA village-wise planning and integrate the same in the Portal.

v. In order to sustain the PESA Act for empowering tribal communities, this Ministry is in the process of establishing a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on PESA areas in collaboration with the PESA States. This CoE will focus on conducting research to strengthen the PESA Act implementation. These could be set up at the Central Universities in the PESA States such as Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh where there are Central Tribal Universities.

2.1.5 The address of Shri Vivek Bharadwaj was followed by displaying a 5-minute film on PESA Areas. After which, was addressed by the Hon'ble Ministers of the State Department of Panchayati Raj starting with **Shri Anirudh Singh, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Himachal Pradesh.** He highlighted that the Himachal Pradesh (HP) Government amended its Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 by adding a Chapter 6(a) in which article 97 (a) to 97 (i) defines PESA Act. On 26th March, 20211, Himachal Pradesh Government notified PESA Rules for its effective implementation. As on date, out of 3,615 GPs in HP, only 168 GPs fall under PESA. 42.49% of the total area is constituted under the tribal area and only 5.71% of total population is tribal. This tribal area falls under very difficult geographical areas/terrains having severe weather conditions where 4-5 months of heavy snow fall happens and people relocate



Address by ShriAnirudhSingh

to some other place during that time. Due to such difficult geographical terrain, carrying out development works in these areas is a very challenging. Like any other Department, the Panchayati Raj Department only gets 6-7 months to implement development work. As a result, construction works- such as the Panchayat Bhawans, and establishing Common Resource Centres gets delayed compared to other States.

2.1.5.1 He further emphasised that special administrative arrangements are planned for carrying out development work in PESA areas in Himachal Pradesh. Since 1993-94, the State spends 9% of the total budget on tribal areas. Commission for Tribal Welfare has been delegated the powers of the Secretary of Finance. Single-line administration is applied in Tribal Areas i.e. DC/Resident Commissioner or ADC have been given the powers of Head of the Department. The Government of Himachal Pradesh is committed to ensuring that all Schemes & Acts of Panchayati Raj are to be implemented in Himachal Pradesh and targets to be achieved and it is also requested that such National level Conferences should be organized regularly. Further, citing Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act and PESA rules, the following suggestions were made:

i. The villages in Himachal Pradesh are comparatively smaller in terms of population, therefore, the State may be allowed to constitute PESA Gram Sabha below a population of 1000 through notification.

ii. Keeping in view the difficult weather conditions/geographical terrain, the State may be given additional time till June to prepare GPDP in PESA areas.

iii. More funds to be allocated to PESA areas in Himachal Pradesh as compared to non-PESA areas keeping in view the difficult geographical conditions.

2.1.5.2 Next was **Dr. Danasari Anasurya (Seethakka), Hon'ble Minister, Department of Panchayati Raj & Rural Development, Government of Telangana.** She stated that this issue has long been ignored, one that affects the lives of millions of tribal people across our Nation. These communities live in natural resource-rich regions and yet they are deprived of basic necessities such as roads, electricity, schools, drinking water and even the right to build homes. Despite the PESA Act vesting power to the tribal communities for Tribal Self-Governance and their rights being protected, still tribal communities are facing hurdles in enjoying their development rights. Since the tribal communities mostly reside in the forests, any development work in those areas falls

under the jurisdiction and regulation of Forest Department. This is why, tribal communities face strict restrictions to undertake development activities such as build small roads, lay down electricity lines, etc. Even though central schemes such as JANMAAN provide hope to the tribal communities to enjoy the rights vested upon them from generations, however, strict regulations restrict those traditional rights. She further requested further flexibility to access the wild-life sanctuary areas.

2.1.5.3 To make real changes it is important to recognise the schemes such as PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan which has been recently announced to bring clean energy to rural and tribal areas. However, for its effective implementation, power needs to be vested in Tribal Panchayats, without which decisions on infrastructure such as roads, power lines, houses, etc. will remain on paper. Land rights and full share of their resources should be reinstated to the tribal communities. The Central and State government officers need to be made aware of the local self-governance mechanism under the PESA Act to ensure the effective Implementation of Central and State schemes in the area. Further, the participation of tribal leaders in governance needs to be increased.

Address by
Dr. Danasari Anasurya

2.1.5.4 She further stated that the Government of Telangana has notified Rules under PESA Act. The State Government is implementing this PESA Act in Vth Schedule Districts, 93 Mandals and 1,290 Gram Panchayats in PESA areas. In the PESA area, one Gram Sabha mobiliser is appointed and two in each Gram Panchayat and one District coordinator is appointed in each District. She concluded by making a commitment to stand with the Government by reinstating the power to the Tribal Panchayat as promised under the PESA Act and run Tribal self-government for development. With the effective implementation of the PESA Act / Rules, tribal communities need not wait for approvals from the district officials or Central/State Governments. In this way, tribal communities become the driver of their progress.

2.1.6 This was followed by the launch of PESA – GPDP Portal by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Launch of PESA-GPDP Portal by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj

2.1.6.1 After the launch, **Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh (MP)** reiterated the concerns resonated by others that implementation of PESA Act has taken so long despite its notification being done in 1996. He mentioned that when the PESA Act was enacted in 1996, he was a Member of Parliament. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh notified PESA Rules on 25th November, 2022 and actively implemented it. In his State, PESA constitutes a bigger area i.e. 11,596 PESA villages under 5,133 GPS of 88 Blocks in 20 Districts. The State has undertaken the following works:

Addressby ShriPrahladSinghPatel

i. Under Human Resource network, have appointed 13 District Co-ordinators, 81 Block Level Coordinators and 4,824 PESA mobilisers.

ii. As a special initiative, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has appointed PESA mobilisers for better implementation of PESA Act at the ground level.

iii. 165 Gram Sabhas have been constituted in the PESA Areas and 11,534 Bank accounts have been opened for proper financial transactions.

iv. At the community level claim on forest rights is in process but good progress has been made in individual cases.

v. Under land management, Government of Madhya Pradesh has returned the land to three individuals under the PESA area.

vi. 62,617 khasre have also been transferred to the Land Management Committees by the Forest & Revenue Department.

vii. 5,365 cases have been settled by the Peace and Dispute Resolution Committee without FIRs being filed in the police station. There are a total of 11,549 Peace and Dispute Resolution Committees constituted to so far.

viii. 20,532 Sahayogini Mantra Samiti have been constituted for women's empowerment in the PESA area.

ix. 131 applications for minor mineral leases have been submitted to the concerned Committee in PESA areas.

x. 16,803 intensive training programmes on the PESA Act have been conducted during the period from 19th November, 2022 to 5th December, 2024.

xi. On the issue of control over money lending, Madhya Pradesh is the anchor State and Jharkhand is the partner State. We together will be organising a training programme on this topic on 8th – 9th October, 2024 at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

xii. The training manual prepared on the said subject has been appreciated by all.

xiii. The meeting of the High Empowered Committee on PESA is being convened regularly on a monthly basis and Steering Committee meeting takes place in 2- 3 months, under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Governor of the State.

xiv. To sort out the financial request for meeting above mentioned work, a provision is being worked out to allocate 5-10% funds from the Tribal Sub- Plan annually.

xv. In the implementation of PM-JANMAN scheme, MP is the leading State.

xvi. The Committee on Prohibition / Regulation of Sale of Intoxicants, have till date relocated 211 alcohol shops to some other place.

xvii. In the forest village, PESA Committees are also constituted so with the help of them development work like road construction has taken place smoothly with the help of PESA Act.

2.1.7 This was followed by the launch of **Seven Training Modules on PESA by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying**. This Ministry had constituted seven Committees of Officers to focus on key PESA subjects: (i) Strengthening of Gram Sabhas, (ii) Minor

LaunchofSevenTrainingManualsonPESA by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj

Forest Produce, (iii) Minor Minerals, (iv) Prevention of Alienation of Land, (v) Control over Money Lending, (vi) Enforcement of Prohibition on Sale and Consumption of Intoxicants, and (vii) Customary Mode of Dispute Resolution. These Committees have drafted their respective training materials. These training materials are now ready to be used to impart training to various stakeholders/key persons who implement PESA. He appreciated the efforts put in by the elected Representatives to come out as winners in the most difficult elections in the Nation. He emphasised that the day the PESA Act is implemented on the ground then only the dreams of Pandit Deen Dayal Ji's Antyodya, Dr. Lohia's principle of Equality, Gandhi Ji's Swaraj and Dr. Ambedkar's Samta Mulak Samaaj would be realised i.e. when the most backward Panchayats in the most backward areas get developed. Comparing the status of development in the villages, he mentioned that the situation in the tribal areas is the worst and their upliftment is the main aim of the PESA Act,1996. He emphasised that the journey should be made from the smart city to the smart hamlet, which will pave the path for Viksit Bharat 2047 and India will emerge as a Vishwa Guru.

2.1.7.1 Coining the phrase "***PESA-PAISA-PESHA***" i.e. PESA he emphasized that PESA will only be effectively implemented when an adequate amount of funds are made available and the elected representatives since rely fulfil their roles and responsibilities and work properly for the tribal people and areas development. He suggested the following actions to be undertaken:

i. Balancing rights with responsibilities for effective implementation of PESA on the ground.
ii. Commitment in making PESA accessible and actionable for the residents at the grassroots level, embodying the '*Lab to Land*' concept.
iii. This Ministry is making concerted efforts to empower Gram Sabhas in PESA villages as strong and vibrant platforms, working in close collaboration with all

Line Ministries / Departments and State Governments to ensure effective and holistic development.

iv. Emphasis on the crucial role of women in the implementation of PESA stating *"the empowerment and active participation of women in governance are paramount to the success of PESA in Scheduled Areas"*.

Address by
Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel

v. Adequate funds, infrastructure and access to better living standards, health and education are essential to ensuring the all-round development of our tribal communities.

vi. Highlighted that the training modules released today are not merely theoretical but completely action-oriented, with practical steps included in every module to ensure ease of implementation.

vii. The initiative of creating GPDP under PESA provisions will prove to be transformative, as it expands the trainees' understanding and enables them to implement the plans without practical difficulties.

viii. In the tribal area maximum publicity should be done on the provisions of the PESA Act *i.e.* roles, responsibilities and powers and adequate training should be imparted on the subject.

2.1.7.2 He concluded by appreciating the efforts of the Department of Panchayati Raj, Government of Madhya Pradesh in resolving 5,365 cases amicably through the Peace and Dispute Resolution Committee without an FIR being filed.

2.1.8 Although not able to attend physically Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying addressed the august gathering through his video message. In his message, he welcomed all the participants attending the National Conference. He highlighted that the PESA Act, 1996 being implemented in 10 States, 108 Districts and in more than 20000 Gram Panchayats, has vested special powers to tribals living in the Vth Schedule Area. This Conference is being organized by the Ministry in collaboration with ten

PESA States to ensure that the benefits of the PESA Act reach the grassroots level, promoting holistic development in these regions. During this Conference, seven Specialized Training Modules have been released and PESA-GPDP Portal has also been launched.

Address by
Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh

These resources are designed to enhance the effectiveness of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) and training initiatives. The action-oriented training modules developed under the PESA Act, 1996 address critical areas. The PESA-GPDP Portal will facilitate village-based development planning and also help in maintaining financial records. These efforts reaffirm the Ministry's commitment in ensuring that the benefits of the PESA Act are effectivelybeingdeliveredtotribalcommunitiesinalignmentwithitstruespirit. With this, he ended his keynote address by welcoming and thanking the participants for attending the Conference.

2.1.9 This was followed by group photographs with the Hon'ble Ministers and Participants.

Group Photographs with Hon'ble Ministers and Participants at National Conference on PESA Act

Technical Session-1

Panel Discussion on PESA Gram Sabha-Visualizing the Way Forward

The panel discussion was chaired by **Shri Navaljit Kapoor (IRS) Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.**

Panellists:

Panel Discussion on PESA Gram Sabha: Visualizing the way forward

(i) **Milind Thathe, from TEER Foundation in his opening** remarks of the panel discussion emphasized that the PESA Act is the foundation of grassroots democracy in India. He highlighted that decisions in Gram Sabhas are made through consensus, fostering community participation and collective decision-making. He shared a recent experience from a Gram Sabha, where an elderly villager while addressing the gathering reminded everyone that in the Sabha, *'Sab baithna, sab bolna, chup rehna aur jhoot bolna barabar ka paap hai'*. He drew a parallel to the inscription in the old Parliament building, referring to averse from the Manusmriti that equates speaking lies and staying silent on injustice as equally sinful.

Shri Thathe also recounted an incident from a Gram Sabha in Madhya Pradesh. In this instance, a villager initially opposed a water pipeline passing through his field. However, after the Gram Sabha reconvened after 15-20 days and discussed the matter again, the villager, while still personally opposed to the decision, agreed to abide by it, recognizing the authority of the Panchayat and the collective decision-making process. Shri Thathe underscored that such instances reflect the strength of the Gram Sabha in fostering consensus-based decisions, even when personal preferences may differ. While concluding he said that we have to fill the gap between Gram Sabha and Panchayat which is very important.

(ii) **Shri Surendra Kumar Meena, Director of SIRD & PR, Government of Odisha**, has informed that 15 days ago, the state revised the drafted PESA rules. According to him, the Odisha PESA rules are set to be the best in the country, having been thoroughly studied and revised based on the rules of all other states. A key aspect of the revision is the declaration of PESAvillages, which is determined by the presence of atleast 200 tribal residents in the village. A dedicated committee, headed by the SDM and District Collector, is responsible for these declarations. Additionally, the revised rules grant Gram Sabhas the authority to consent to land acquisition processes. Odisha aims to officially notify the PESA rules within the next six months.

(iii) **Smt. Priyanka Rishi Mohabia, Director, Department Panchyati Raj Chhattisgarh** shared that the Sate comprises 33 districts, with 21 falling under the PESA Act. Over half of the State's population resides in these PESA districts. Though the PESA rules were notified on 8th August 2022, the implementation has been slow. Six months ago, she took charge of ensuring the effective execution of PESA in the state. Since then, the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) has begun training programs on PESA, and the recruitment of block and district coordinators is underway. The training materials have been translated into local tribal languages, and they are also working on translating seven key training modules. It is anticipated that with these efforts, PESA will be implemented successfully in the state after the training is completed.

(iv) **Shri Mahesh Mishra, Akhil Bhartiya Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram, emphasized the crucial role of NGOs** and civil society in raising awareness among tribal communities about the PESA Act and the benefits it offer. He pointed out that many government officials themselves are not fully aware of the rights of tribal people under PESA, making the involvement of NGOs vital in these areas. NGOs will play an essential role in providing training, generating awareness, and acting as facilitators in the process.

Regarding markets, Mishra mentioned the importance of understanding tribal customs, such as the cultural significance of wine (referring to "*Mahua Niti*" or "*Sharab Niti*"). Wine is deeply integrated into tribal life, and for their prosperity, it is essential to grant tribal communities the rights to produce, consume, bottle, and sell wine. The Government should ensure that markets are available for them to sell their products,

thereby contributing to their economic well-being. He also stressed the need for training at all levels to ensure the effective implementation of PESA. Additionally, he highlighted the lengthy process involved in notifying a Gram Sabha, noting that approving an application can be time-bound.

(v) **Smt. Bilasinee Oram, Sarpanch, Launipada Gram Panchyat Joda Block Odisha**, mentioned that while PESA Rules have been drafted in the state, their notification is essential for effective implementation. Once notified, it would become easier to engage with the tribal communities in a manner that aligns with their unique culture and traditions. For PESA to be effectively implemented, she emphasized the necessity of formally notifying the rules.

(vi) **Shri Shiv Shankar Marbi, Adhyashk Shankargarh Janpad Panchayat, Balrampur, Chhattisgarh,** also provided insights about the current status of PESA in Chhattisgarh. He mentioned key observations and challenges related to its implementation, contributing to the broader understanding of PESA's functioning in the State.

(vii) **Shri Mahadev Munda Pradhan Kansili Gram Panchayat from Jharkhand** pointed out that despite Jharkhand being created 24 years ago, PESA rules have still not been notified. He urged the Panchayati Raj Department to take action and ensure the notification of PESA rules in the State.

(viii) **Smt. Anitha Ramachandran, Commissioner of PR & Rural Development Telangana,** emphasized the importance of financial resources for the successful implementation of the PESA Act, stating that "paisa" is key. Although Telangana has drafted PESA rules long ago, she pointed out that each rule comes with limitations, allowing the state to maintain control over the tribals while giving the Gram Sabha minimal authority in many areas. To address this, she recommended the creation of a dedicated PESA cell within the Panchayati Raj Department. Furthermore, she stressed the importance of appointing officers in both PR and other relevant Departments who are sensitive to tribal issues to ensure effective implementation.

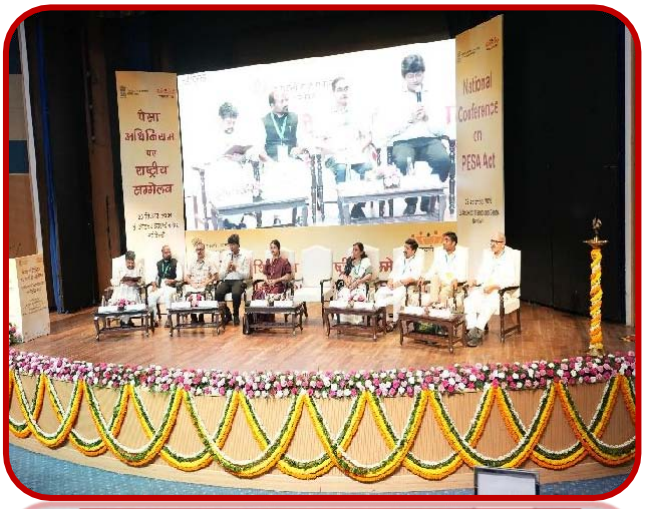
TechnicalSession-2

Panel Discussion on Strengthening the PESA Economies: Forest Rights Act (FRA), Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and Minor Minerals

In Chair: Ms. Alka Tiwari (IAS), Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Government of India

Panellists:

(i) **Shri V.R. Krishna Teja Mylavarapu, Director, Department of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh** focused on: how minor mineral are treated in PESA areas and how minor forest produce is treated in PESA areas. He made the following points:



Panel Discussion on Strengthening the PESA Economies: FRA, MFP and Minor Minerals

- Regarding minor minerals, he said that as per PESA Act, Panchayats are the sole authorized agency to give permission for mining of minor minerals and also explained the process of processing of application for permission of mining of minor minerals that is first given to Forest Department, then to Panchayat Department and finally, it is the Gram Panchayat that after due verification, grants permissions for mining of minor minerals and that the decision of the Panchayat is final and binding.
- Focus of current Government is on sustainability in mining of minor minerals and on the aspect of how Scheduled Tribes are benefitting from minor minerals. A new roadmap for the same is being prepared.
- Regarding MFP, Andhra has strong network of Girijan Cooperative Societies (GCC) who are involved in collection, marketing and selling of MFP except bamboo and the profit of the same is shared with STs, while bamboo is directly marketed by the Forest Department.

- The Government of Andhra Pradesh has a strong and innovative structure regarding Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and is working towards reducing loopholes and realizing the maximum value of the products in the interest of Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) **Smt. Varsha Bharose, Joint Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Maharashtra** made the following points:

- In Maharashtra, in the context of PESA economics to accord financial empowerment of PESA Gram Sabha, ownership has been transferred under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) at appropriate levels.
- As per Minor Minerals Rules, nobody can be given license except with the recommendation of Gram Panchayat.
- The fund, at present, sent to Gram Nidhi and not Gram khosh is to be utilized as per the provisions of PESA Gram Sabha.
- Maximum income under MFP in Maharashtra is from Tendu leaves which Gram Sabha can sell through due tendering process or can ask the Forest Department for tendering of the same. The money earned is deposited in the Gram Sabha Kosh.
- Maharashtra should also consider the adaptation of the Andhra model for increasing the income of PESA Gram Sabha.
- If the people in PESA areas do sorting, processing and marketing of medicinal herbs on their own instead of a third party, it will help increasing their income by getting the maximum direct profit.
- There is a provision of transferring 5% of TSP funds directly to the Gram Sabha with the authority to decide areas on which the funds might be spent. Gram Panchayat is the implementing authority for the same which acts according to the decision of Gram Sabha.

(iii) **Shri A. K. Nandurama, Superintendent Mining Engineer, Rajasthan**

- Minerals being a subject in the central list, MMPR Act 1957 was enacted by Government of India to give power to the State Governments that u/s 3, defined minor minerals as material used in building construction activities. In 2015 the Act was amended to give more powers to States and 31 more industrial-type minerals including quartz, mica etc. were added to the list.
- In PESA Act of 1996, u/s 4(k) & 4(l) made provision for granting concessions for minor minerals in Fifth Schedule Areas such as mining lease and quarry license, etc. with the prior approval of the Gram Sabha.

- Initially 2% of Revenue on Royalty was allocated to Panchayats but there were major transparency issues. After the introduction of Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kalyaan Yojna (PMKKY) and the provision of District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) in the Central Act itself, it can be addressed to a great extent. Under Rule 11 of MMCR (Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2017), prior permission of PESA Gram Sabha was made essential in the auction of minerals and that preference may be given to people and the registered societies under Fifth Schedule areas.
- It would be beneficial if control of Minor minerals is given to Panchayats and the share of income to Panchayats in PESA areas would help strengthen their economies.
- Judicious use of Minor minerals may be promoted and illegal mining may be controlled through the involvement of Gram Sabha and incentive sharing with the Gram Sabha. This would also contribute to the economic development of PESA Gram Sabhas.
- To address the issues of lack of awareness amongst the people and the key stakeholders, the modules developed by MoPR and the training of master trainers being conducted on relevant aspects of PESA would be very useful.

(iv) **Shri Prakashji Nikam, President, Palghar Zilla Parishad from Maharashtra**

- PESA Act and rules are known to everyone. However the implementation is being obstacted by the Collector, SDO and Tehsildar etc. Hence, it is suggested that the powers and authority may rather be granted to the CEO, ZP, BDO and Panchayat Secretary too, and thus power would be vested with the village.
- There could be Scheduled Tribe contractors for development works in PESA Panchayat so that the profit remains with tribal people.
- There is an imbalance between forest protection and development. Individual claims under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) are rejected by forest officials and many times, claimants are not even aware of the rejection of their claims.
- The people in PESA Gram Sabha are as may be duly informed about the schemes such as Jal Jeevan Mission and Gharkul Yojna (PM Awaas Yojna) and facilitate access to the benefit of these schemes without obstacles that the forest officials often create.
- Commenting on the poor attendance in Gram Sabhas in PESA areas, he suggested that the access to benefits of Government schemes may be linked to people‘s participation in Gram Sabha meetings.

(v) **Shri Dalpat Meena, Zilla Parishad Member, Pratapgarh, Rajasthan**

- At many places in the PESA areas, developmental activities such as road construction are obstructed due to interference of the Forest Department and thus, people's basic needs are not addressed.
- In Rajasthan, specifically around Pratapgarh area, the powerful control the minor forestproduce.SometimestendersaredoneattheBlocklevelandGramSabhasareheld on paper only.
- It's recommended that officials at the Gram Panchayat level may be duly authorised to implement the PESA Act at the Gram Panchayat level effectively.
- Sometimes false FIRs are filed against people in PESA areas. This often leads to conflict between elected representatives and officials.
- Towards the end, he concluded by saying there is an urgent need for a healthy dialogue between officials and elected representatives. He also made an appeal to MoPR to monitor the implementation of the PESA Act in its true spirit on the ground.

(vi) **Shri Petteli Dasu Babu, Sarpanch, Pedalabudu Gram Panchayat, Araku Valley Mandal, Alluri Seetha Rama Raju District, Andhra Pradesh**

- He mentioned about the poor economic status of tribal people due to lack of awareness of the PESA Act and other relevant legal provisions.
- Panchayats in these areas need to be more empowered, which would lead to greater employment generation and better self-employment opportunities.
- For this, he recommended that adequate empowerment of Panchayat in PESA areas may be ensured.

(vii) **Shri Anish Kumar, Managing Director, TRIF India**

He mentioned that the gathering of all relevant stakeholders at the PESA Conference organised by MoPR is a good opportunity to ponder over issues and solutions towards the effective implementation of the PESA Act.

- He spoke about the history of the evolution of provisions related to Scheduled Tribes and their development and about the 3 major phases towards empowering people in PESA areas.

  Phase I: Introduction of the Fifth Schedule and Sixth Schedule in the Constitution. This phase can be called the protection phase.

Phase II: Implementation of Tribal-Sub Plan (TSP) strategy in 22 states and 2 UTs.

Phase III: Self rule introduced in1996 along with the PESA Act**.**

- He spoke about the scope of the PESA Act saying that this law helps to make other laws PESA-compliant in 10 PESA states.
- The issue of devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries in PESA areas was discussed as well as the different Central government programmes such as Van Dhan Yojna, and improved road connectivity/ transportation facilities in tribal areas, yet increased migration from these areas. In this context, there is a need to analyse the viableadministrativeunitsandefficacyofresourcesdivertedtowardsthedevelopment of Scheduled Tribes through various programmes.
- He spoke about strengthening the Gram Sabha in PESA areas and addressing the conflict of the Traditional vs Democratic character of tribal self-governance and examining aspects such as negotiation, reconciliation and alignment of vested interests, especially considering the presence of non-tribal population in PESA areas.
- He also spoke about the need for necessary initiatives such as dedicated human resources to mainstream PESA-compliant self-rule for the scheduled tribe areas consisting of 22,000 Gram Panchayats under 45 districts in PESA areas across India.
- Jal-Jungle-Jameen resources may be brought under the control of PESA Gram Sabha. Now women organisations exist in almost all Panchayats and they may be involved in effectively integrating PESA with GPDP.

(viii) **Shri Girish Kuber, Advisor, Janjati Hitraksha Issues, Akhil Bharatiya Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram (ABVKA)**

- Gram Sabha in PESA areas represents an eco-system that consists of the traditional governancesystemofthemajorityofpeopleintheSabhaareasandincludesthesocial, and economic systems, and sustainable use of resources in that area. Protection of culture in scheduled areas, sustainable use of resources and protection of traditional systems, all can contribute to strengthening the economy of Gram Sabha in Fifth Schedule areas.
- A beautiful example of sustainable use of resources and access to these natural resources was given through the sharing of brooming grass amongst the Gonda community. As was mentioned, no one is allowed to pluck that grass before the communityworshipisperformedonafixedday,andthisdayisgenerallyobserved

when the grass has matured and then everyone in the village joins for the Puja. After Puja, grass is distributed amongst all and this way all get equal access to natural resources such as brooming grass.

- Gram Sabha can be at the centre for economic development, e.g. instead of sourcing sand through the contractor for the construction of houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, mining of minor minerals such as sand can be done from the village itself, with the permission of Gram Sabha and this would ensure resources to Gram Sabha only. Such provisions would help strengthen the village economy.
- PESA GPDP may be prepared separately on a dedicated portal and adequate training to relevant stakeholders may be provided for this. Along with the special tribal component given to PESA Gram Sabha, funds for development as per resources for GPDP may be used for infrastructural development in PESA panchayats. This is necessary for developmental activities like internet connectivity, roads, Common Service Centre, village schools, provisioning of water in Anganwadi centre etc.
- Facilities like Van Dhan Vikas Kendra be provided for clusters of 2-3 Gram Sabhas in PESA areas. Example of Gram Sabha as an implementing agency in Chhattisgarh was also given.
- Education and training to be ensured for Gram Sabha for strengthening decision making by Gram Sabha and some initiatives in this regard for strengthening of Gram Sabha were mentioned.
- Concluding, Shri Girish Kuber remarked that there is a need for collaborative efforts to elevate customary Gram Sabhas in PESA areas, to achieve the mandate of the PESA Act.

Summing up by the chair:

- PESA is a powerful groundbreaking Act that gives the power of natural resources to Gram Sabha. Ground realities regarding the status of PESA implementation have been discussed during the session.
- Regarding the Forest Rights Act, in most of the States the focus remains confined to individual forest rights and community forest rights. However, there is not much focus on Community Forest Resource rights. This is a significant factor affecting the empowerment of tribals, their Gram Sabhas, their livelihoods, conservation of resources

and even for strengthening local self-governance. The convergence of schemes and resources of various Departments is also critical in this regard.

- Definitions of forest and minor forest produce under the Forest Rights Act have been restricted in many states excluding some significant items such as bamboo, tendu leaves from the list of minor forest produce (MFP). Gram Sabhas should have complete control over minor forest produce in their jurisdiction, in the true sense, as has been provided for, under the PESA Act.
- Legal and statutory provisions that are inconsistent with PESA should not be enforced or may be amended appropriately to bring them in conformity with PESA law.
- Power to issue Transit-permit has not been transferred to Gram Sabha, this change has to be brought in with immediate effect.
- Sharing resources from minor minerals with Gram Sabha is important for their economic development. Example of sharing of royalty with Gram Sabha in this regard was given and suggestions for its application/ adaptation in other PESA States were made. Similarly, examples of minor water bodies and fishing rights in Maharashtra were given.
- There should be strict checks in force, regarding money lending in Fifth Schedule areas to protect people from getting into debt traps.
- Gram Sabha should have complete access to and control over funds for effectively undertaking development activities. State Finance Commissions should devolve funds directly to Gram Sabhas.
- Capacity building and training should also focus on economy and marketing dynamics.

To conclude, for realising the true spirit of PESA powers should be vested with Gram Sabha and not with other agencies like Gram Panchayat and engagement of Civil Society as well as active involvement of people may be strengthened.

TechnicalSession-3

Panel Discussion on Empowering the Last Mile: Saturation of PESA Training Modules and Effective IEC (Information, Education and Communication)

Chair: Dr. G. Narendra Kumar (IAS), Director General, National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj.

The Chair began by welcoming everyone to the session, emphasizing the significance of the discussion 'Empowering the Last Mile: Saturation of PESA Training Modules and Effective IEC (Information, Education and Communication)'. He further elaborated that the session's focus was on the implementation of the PESA Act, a topic that has been discussed for over 25 years but has seen limited progress due to various challenges, particularly the lack of financial resources.

Panel Discussion on Empowering the Last Mile: Saturation of PESA Training Modules and Effective IEC

The Chair further emphasized that despite numerous workshops, research studies, and training modules, the Act's implementation has still significant potential for further progress. In a 2021 workshop marking 25 years of the PESA Act, key issues were raised, including the low level of awareness among both tribal communities and officials. The Chair highlighted the need for a model administrative manual under the PESA Act and mentioned the launch of seven training modules aimed at improving implementation. He further stressed the importance of capacity building, citing the success of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) as a model. By addressing capacity building gaps, particularly in Scheduled Areas, the effectiveness of the PESA Act could be improved.

The Chair encouraged panellists to consider how Capacity Building and training materials could be better tailored to meet the unique needs of different regions. Additionally, there was

a focus on the role of facilitators, block-level coordinators, and district-level PESA coordinators in improving implementation. The Chair concluded by emphasizing the need for sustained capacity building, especially as new Elected Representatives (ERs) take office every five years and called for adequate funding for these initiatives.

Panellists:

(i) **Shri Malay Shrivastava, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh,** reflecting on the day's discussions, he noted that while the PESA Act was enacted in1996, its implementation has gained momentum only in the past few years, indicating that further improvements are possible with sustained focus. He identified two key areas for enhancement: strengthening training modules for last-mile delivery and improving Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) efforts, which he believes are vital for effective implementation of the PESA Act.

Shri Shrivastava, further underscored the significance of ERs at all governance levels. He mentioned that Madhya Pradesh implemented its PESA rules in November 2022 using a top-down approach, ensuring that senior officials, field officers, and local staff were well-informed and the rules were made accessible in local languages, supported by various informational materials and cultural elements.

Furthermore, he emphasized the need for engaging training that incorporates local languages and practical examples from successful regions to spark interest and leave a lasting impact. He highlighted peer learning which can become a focus where each State can learn from the others best practices. He concluded by stressing that practical and localized training can significantly enhance awareness and understanding of the PESA Act. When individuals recognize their rights and provisions under the Act, their feedback can contribute to improving its implementation.

(ii) **Shri Sanjay Kushram, Chairman, Zilla Parishad Mandala, Madhya Pradesh**

Shri Kushram, extended greetings to everyone present and highlighted the importance of discussing the PESA Act and the need to focus on the local context and language when implementing the Act. He pointed out the necessity for each Gram Sabha has to has have its

own account for effective economic planning and management. The speaker stressed the importance of creating awareness among the community regarding the jurisdiction of Gram Sabhas and panchayats to reduce conflicts. He discusses the challenges faced in collecting minor forest produce and the need for government financial support to strengthen collection committees.

Moreover, he emphasized the importance for sharing successful stories of PESA through audio-visual means to enhance awareness. An example from Madhya Pradesh, wherein any misunderstandings about rights under the PESA Act have been rectified through discussions at the grassroot level. Additionally, he advocated for recognizing and promoting local products that can improve the economic situation in Gram Sabhas. Shri Kushram, concluded by sharing an initiative in Mandla, where water bodies (Amrit Sarovars) have been created to support local economic activities and tourism, thereby enhancing the benefits provided under the PESA Act.

(iii) **Shri Raghav Sharma**, Director-cum-Special Secretary, Department of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Government of Himachal Pradesh focused on four key elements that are key to PESA Training. First, he highlighted the importance of identifying who is being trained and ensuring the content is relevant for the stakeholders involved. It is crucial to train both those who have rights under PESA and those responsible for granting them, including Elected Representatives (ERs) and state-level Officials. Tailored training for various Departments and front-line workers is essential, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the law at all levels. Second, he emphasized on the need for a well-structured system of trainers, with block-level PESA coordinators and Panchayat-level mobilizers. He suggests leveraging the existing NRLM framework, which has successfully trained women's self-help groups. By involving these experienced community leaders as facilitators, the training can be made more effective and impactful.

Third, he underscored the importance of interactive and engaging training formats and noted that one-way lectures are less effective and highlighted the success of using flipped class room models in Himachal Pradesh. This approach encourages participants to present their experiences and engage in discussions, which enhances knowledge retention. Exposure visits, already part of the RGSA program, can be extended to PESA areas as well. Finally, Shri Sharma advocated incorporating PESA into a structured annual

training calendar, ensuring consistency in training. He also stressed the need for training on resource utilization, beyond just creating awareness of rights.

(iv) **Shri Chandrashekhar Pran**, Founder, Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan focused on two main topics: training and its content. He further outlined five key elements of training: providing information, deepening knowledge, skill development, changing mindsets, and adopting a systematic approach. A shift in mindset is seen as crucial for the training to be effective, helping participants shape their future goals. Additionally, he stressed on the importance of understanding how traditional Indian knowledge systems interact with PESA. Training needs to bridge the gap between community-based traditions and state legal frameworks. Real-life case studies were recommended to enhance understanding and awareness campaigns are needed to complement the training for wider impact.

(v) **Shri Sanjay K. Modi**, Collector & DM, Narmada District, Government of Gujarat was invited to share his thoughts. He began by discussing the strong structure of the Gram Sabha in Gujarat, particularly in tribal areas that stretches from Rajasthan to Maharashtra. Since 2001, this structure has been significantly strengthened, with Gram Sabha meetings held six times a year. Ministers, senior officers, and even the Chief Minister attend these meetings, fostering a high level of awareness among the people. Mr. Modi highlighted that under the PESA Act, tribal district committees are functioning effectively, with meetings held every three months. In cases where meetings don't take place, a grievance redressal system operates at the taluka, district, and state levels. Specifically, in his district of Narmada, these committees are very active, making decisions related to infrastructure, land acquisition, development work, and social initiatives.

He proposed two key improvements for better implementation of the PESA Act. First, he emphasized the need for social audits, similar to those conducted under NRLM and SIRD, to ensure the effectiveness of the Act's implementation. Second, he recommended the creation of a national portal under the PESA Act, where real-time data about meetings, decisions, and participation could be entered. This portal would also allow for the uploading of success stories and photographs, ensuring continuous monitoring. In conclusion, he expressed that such measures would enhance the success of the PESA Act and greatly benefit tribal communities.

(vi) **Shri. Rajesh Sharma**, Chairman, Zilla Parishad, Lahual & Spiti District, Himachal Pradesh highlighted the unique challenges faced by districts like Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur, and Pangi Bharmour, which were not addressed during the discussions. He noted that while Himachal Pradesh is making progress in PESA activities and training, it still faces staffing shortages in key Departments particularly due to the region's harsh winters and limited working period. He called for filling vacant posts and issuing clear directives to support PESA implementation. He also emphasized the valuable role retired officers play in assisting with planning efforts. Lastly, he encouraged former Panchayati Raj representatives to continue contributing to their communities as PESA workers after their tenure ends.

(vii) **Shri Sanjay Kulkarni**. Janjati Hitraksha Pramukh, Akhil Bharatiya Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram (ABVKA) Mr. Kulkarni, Tribal Welfare Head of ABVKA, was invited to share his thoughts. He began by appreciating the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for organizing a valuable seminar. He mentioned that he had attended one of the previous two seminars and had reviewed the findings from both. One key takeaway from the findings was the mention of a lack of action-oriented material, indicating the need for a more effective training model and the extensive use of such materials.

Moreover, he pointed out that while the PESA law was enacted in 1996, even by 2024, some states took considerable time to establish rules. A proper training module and material should have been developed by now, though implementation delays are understandable with new laws. Mr. Kulkarni emphasized that the essence of the PESA law is deeply rooted in traditions that have been followed for thousands of years. With some proactive efforts and effective training, the law could be implemented efficiently. He reiterated the importance of training officers, especially those at the district level like the CEO of Zila Parishads and SDMs, who are responsible for its implementation. However, often these officers lack the necessary knowledge or understanding of the law, which hinders effective execution.

Valedictory Session of the PESA Conference

Key officials and dignitaries attended the valedictory session to reflect on the outcomes of the discussions and deliberate on the way forward for the effective implementation of the PESA Act.

PESA-GPDP Portal Demonstration by Shri Sanjay Joshi

Prior to the valedictory session, Shri Sanjay Joshi, Sr. Director, NIC demonstrated the newly launched PESA-GPDP portal. Shri Joshi demonstrated the process which now enables each PESA village to log in to the *e*Gram Swaraj and incorporate their PESA village Plan. This will allow us to capture PESA village-wise development plan mapping and its integration with GPDP.

After the demonstration on the PESA-GPDP portal, Shri Durga Das Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Tribal Affairs along with the senior officers from the Ministry and State Government, were invited to the dais for the valedictory session.

The valedictory session started with the address by **Smt. Mamta Varma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj.** She provided a summary of the discussion held throughout the day, extending her appreciation to the distinguished speakers for their insightful contributions. She emphasised the various dimensions that had been discussed, particularly focusing on the training initiatives and the economic empowerment of PESA Panchayats. She remarked that while the Conference marked

AddressbyMsMamtaVarma

an important milestone, there remains much more to accomplish in the journey ahead. Smt. Varma also highlighted the significant development of the PESA GPDP (Gram Panchayat Development Plan) portal, which now offers an essential tool for PESA Panchayats in planning their development activities.

After her address, **Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj,** extended a warm welcome to the Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri Durga DasUikey, and acknowledged the audience for their attentive participation throughout the Conference. He emphasised that the commitment displayed by all participants reflects the collective effort to strengthen the PESA framework. Shri Bharadwaj shared the journey leading up to the conference, mentioning the hands-on approach of organising workshops rather than Conferences, with the first being held in Pune, followed by Ranchi. He underscored the Significance of the steps taken thus far, including the development of seven training modules within a short span, made possible through the dedicated efforts of the Ministry's team, including the former Additional Secretary Shri C.S. Kumar, Joint Secretary Smt. Mamta Varma, and former Deputy Secretary Shri Vijay Kumar. He reiterated that since PESA is primarily a state subject, state officials must take the initiative and drive continuous improvement. He assured that the Ministry of Panchayati Raj would extend its full cooperation in this endeavour.

Address by Shri Vivek Bharadwaj

Shri Durga Das Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Tribal Affairs in his address, spoke about the PESA Act, describing it as a constitutional provision that was hard-earned after years of struggle. He praised the perseverance and resilience of tribal communities, which has been evident throughout history. Shri Uikey called upon the officials present to work

Key Note Address by Shri Durga Das Uikey

with dedication to ensure the proper and thorough implementation of the PESA Act, stressing the importance of transmitting the knowledge gained during the sessions to the grassroots level, where it could make the most impact.

Vote of Thanks

The formal proceedings concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Shri Ramit Maurya. He expressed sincere gratitude to Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying for his key note address and

Vote of Thanks by Shri Ramit Maurya, Director, MoPR

guidance throughout the proceedings and Shri Durga Das Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Tribal Affairs for his inspiring words. He further expressed his sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Ministers of State Panchayati Raj Departments from the States of Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana, Senior Officers from the Ministries of Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj. He thanked all the chairs, panelists and experts who shared their invaluable perspectives during today's technical sessions. Their contributions have been instrumental in furthering our understanding of the challenges and opportunities related to PESA implementation. Last but not least he thanked the National Informatics Centre (NIC) for the successful launch and demonstration of the PESA-GPDP portal, which will undoubtedly enhance local governance at the grassroots level and his team for successfully organising the Conference. He expressed his very special thanks to the members of NGOs and civil society organizations, whose on-ground work in tribal areas is invaluable.

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Annexure-I

National Conference on PESA Act
26th September, 2024 at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
List of Participants

1. Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
2. Shri Durgadas Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Ministry of Tribal Affairs
3. Shri. Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh
4. Dr. Danasari Anasurya (Seethakka), Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, Government of Telangana
5. Shri. Anirudh Singh, Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Non-Governmental Organizations

1. Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram (ABVKA)
2. Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan
3. BAIF Development Research Foundation,
4. TEER Foundation
5. Transforming Rural India Foundation (TRIF)

List of participants from MoPR- Annexure- IA
List of participants from State of Andhra Pradesh- Annexure- IB
List of participants from State of Chhattisgarh - Annexure- IC
List of participants from State of Gujarat - Annexure-ID
List of participants from State of Himachal Pradesh - Annexure-IE
List of participants from State of Jharkhand - Annexure-IF
List of participants from State of Madhya Pradesh - Annexure-IG
List of participants from State of Maharashtra- Annexure-IH
List of participants from State of Odisha - Annexure-II
List of participants from State of Rajasthan - Annexure-IJ
List of participants from State of Telangana- Annexure-IK

Annexure-IA

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Bijay Kumar Behera,	EA
2.	Shri Ram Pratap	Director
3.	Shri Ramit Maurya	Director
4.	Shri Arun Kumar Mishra	DS
5.	Shri Yoginder Singh	DS
6.	Shri Rajesh Sharma	US
7.	Shri Subhash Sangwan	US
8.	Shri Tara Chander Singh	US
9.	Shri Pankaj Kumar	US
10.	Shri Deep C. Lakra	US
11.	Shri Ajay Kumar	US
12.	Shri Chander Singh	(OL)
13.	Shri Subhadeep Das	SO
14.	Shri Umrav Mal Yadav	SO
15.	Shri Dhananjay Chawla	SO
16.	Ms Neelima Goel	SO
17.	Ms Anuradha	ASO
18.	Shri Shivam Tomar	ASO
19.	Shri Ashish Yadav	ASO
20.	Shri Sharvan	PS
21.	Shri Ashish	Steno
22.	Shri Anjani Kumar Tiwari	Consultant
23.	Ms Priyanka Dutta	Consultant
24.	Shri Alok Pandya	Consultant
25.	Shri Mohit Gupta	Consultant
26.	Shri Satyendra Jha	Consultant
27.	Shri Naved Jamal	Consultant
28.	Ms Kiran Jyoti	Consultant
29.	Shri Aditya Vikram Singh	Consultant
30.	Shri Mohit Rao	Consultant

31.	Shri Kamal Vashistha	Consultant
32.	Shri C. S. Yadav	Consultant
33.	Shri Indra Pal Singh	OA
34.	Shri Jitendra Singh	OA
35.	Shri Danish	OA
36.	Shri Arun Kumar Verma	OA
37.	Shri Pankaj Kumar	OA
38.	Shri P. Satya Narayan	MTS
39.	Shri Ravi Kumar	MTS
40.	Shri Santosh Kumar	MTS
41.	Shri Nitin Kaloya	MTS
42.	Shri Gaurav	MTS
43.	Shri Abhirajan	MTS

Annexure-IB

Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Korabu Anusha Devi	President, MPP, Chintapalli
2.	Sri Petteli Dasu babu	Sarpanch,Pedabayalu GP, Arakuvalley (M)
3.	Smt. Kottagulli Usha Rani	Sarpanch, Paderu GP, (M)
4.	Sri Surabangi Rama Krishna	Sarpanch, palamamidi GP, G.Madugula
5.	Smt. Korra Lalitha	Sarpanch, Chowdupalli GP, Chintapalli (M)
6.	Sri Pangi Pandu Rangaswami	Sarpanch, Dharela GP, Munchingputtu (M)
7.	Sri Bakuru Venkata Ramana Raju	Sarpanch, Bakuru GP, Hukumpeta (M)
8.	Sri T. Lokanadham	Sarpanch, Pedagottili, Kurupam (M)
9.	Sri I. Sankar Rao	Sarpanch, Mondemkhallu, Kurupam (M)
10.	Smt. S. Susheela	Sarpanch, Kothaguda, Seethampeta (M)
11.	Smt. H. Adilaxmi	Sarpanch, Pedduru, Seethampeta (M)
12.	Sri B. Gowri Sankar Rao	Sarpanch, G.L.Puram GP,(M)
13.	Sri M. Simhachalam	Sarpanch, Gotturu, Pachipenta (M)
14.	Sri B. Adinarayana	President, MPP, Seethampeta
15.	Sri K. Deenayya	Traditional Leader
16.	Smt. V. Chinathalli	Sarpanch, K.V.Sarabhavaram GP, Nathavaram(M)
17.	Smt. S. Chinathalli	Sarpanch, Madhavanagaram GP, Nathavaram (M)
18.	Smt. K. Chinnathalli	Sarpanch, Sundarakota GP, Nathavaram (M)
19.	Sri S. Laxmana Murthi	Traditional Leader, Sarugudu GP
20.	Sri Sariyam Raju	Sarpanch, Mulagalampalli GP, Jeelugumilli (M)
21.	Sri Uike Bojji	Sarpanch, Kota Ramachandra Puram GP, Buttaigudem (M)
22.	Sri Kunja Venkateswara Rao	Sarpanch, Achiyyapalem GP, Buttaigudem (M)
23.	Sri Jode Satya Durga Prasad	Sarpanch, Antharvedigudem GP, Buttaigudem (M)
24.	Sri Payam Satyanarayana	Sarpanch, Madhavaram GP, Kukkunoor (M)
25.	Sri Katti Udaya Kumar	Sarpanch, Thatkurugommu GP, Velairpad (M)
26.	Sri Komaram Venkateswara Rao	Traditional Leader
27.	Shri C.H. Suryachandra Rao	DMU GP

The List of District Coordinators of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Sri RVS Ramesh	District Co-ordinator, E.O(PR&RD),Paderu(M)
2.	Sri M.Satyanarayana Murthy	District Co-ordinator, PS,T.K.Jammu GP, Jiyyammavalasa (M)
3.	Shri Talluri Nikhil Madhu Saran	E.O. (PR&RD), Jeelugumilli (M)

The List of SLMTs from APSIRDPR, Andhra Pradesh State

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Sri G. Ramana	Deputy Director, APSIRDPR
2.	Sri Palla Trinatha Rao	Legal Adviser, Tribal Welfare Department
3.	Sri P. Prasad	Deputy Tahsildar, Pathapatnam
4.	Sri V. Ravi kumar	Proh &Excise Inspector
5.	Sri B. Naga Raju	Tahsildar, Munchingputtu
6.	Sri T. Nikhil Madhu Saran	E.O(PR&RD)

The List of Nominations from Panchayat Raj Department, Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. K. Sridevi	Asst Commissioner, PR
2.	Sri C. Balaji	SPC-IT&PESA
3.	Smt. B. Kavitha	Administrative Officer
4.	Smt. Dr. G. Satyavani	Coordinator, PESA
5.	Sri B. Subrahmanyam	Officer In-charge, PESA
6.	Shri VRK TESA	Commissioner

Annexure-IC

Chhattisgarh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Mr. Nitesh Kumar Singh	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Sardi, Panchayat-Baikunthpur
2.	Shri Shyam Bihari Singh Paikra	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Patrapali, Panchayat-Baikunthpur
3.	Shri Govind Singh Kanwar	Vice President, J.P.-Katghora,
4.	Mr. Shravan Kumar Tanwar	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Arda, Panchayat-Katghora
5.	Mr. Pawan Singh Paikra	Sarpanch, J.P.-Gaurela, District-Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi
6.	Mrs. Bhojwanti Singh	President, J.P.-Udaipur
7.	Mr. Samay Lal Porte	Sarpanch, Gram. Pt.-Palka, J.P.-Udaipur
8.	Shri Shiv Shankar Singh Marawi	President, J.P.-Shankargarh-Ramanujganj
9.	Mr. Moharsai Singh	Sarpanch, G.P.-Mukra, J.P. Shankargarh, Ramanujganj
10.	Mr. Kuldeep Minj	
11.	Shri Jagannarayan Sidar	Sarpanch, GP-Rengarghat, GP-Kunkuri,
12.	Shri Mahendra Netam	Sarpanch, GP-Patratoli, GP-Duldula
13.	Mr. Hirasingh Netam	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Madokikhargaon, Panchayat-Badarajpur
14.	Mr. Vijay Mandavi	Member, J.P.-Charama
15.	Shri Panchu Ram Nayak	Sarpanch, GP-Kodagaon, GP-Kankre
16.	Shri Bhima Kovasi	Member, J.P.-Kuakonda,District-Dantewada,
17.	Mr. Sukaalu Mudami	Sarpanch, JP-Palnar, JP-Kuakonda
18.	Shri Damru Ram Nag	Vice President, J.P.-Sukma, District-Sukma
19.	Mr Sannu Korsa	Sarpanch, GP-Silger, GP-Konta,
20.	Shri Samdev Nag	Member, J.P.-Darbha, District-Bastar
21.	Mr. Durjan Kashyap	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Jilmili 02, Panchayat-Darbha
22.	Shri Budhram Badde	Member, J.P.-Narayanpur,District-Narayanpur
23.	Mr. Shantu Ram Dugga	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Kerlapal, Panchayat-Narayanpur,
24.	Shri Pushpraj Singh Thakur	Korba
25.	Shri Mahadev Nag	Chhattisgarh, Bastar

26.	Shri Baliram Netam	Chhattisgarh Kosthagaon
27.	Shri Mahadev Baxi	Chhattisgarh Kosthagaon
28.	Mrs. Priyanka Rishi Mahobia	Director, Panchayat Directorate, Chhattisgarh
29.	Dr. Santosh Kumar Dewangan	Revenue, Additional Commissioner Land. Record
30.	Mr. Dinesh Aggarwal	Joint Director, Panchayat Directorate, Chhattisgarh
31.	Mr. Ashok Kumar Jaiswal (State Level Travel Coordinator)	Faculty Member, SIRD, Nimora, Raipur
32.	Mr. Raj Gupta	Consultant, Treef Institute, Raipur
33.	Mr. Pankaj Sinha (Division Level Travel Coordinator)	Faculty Member, D.P.R.C. District-Kanker
34.	Shri Jai Kumar Pusham (Division Level Travel Coordinator)	Faculty Member, D.P.R.C. District-Balrampur
35.	Mr. Hrishikesh Jha	Supreme Court Delhi
36.	Mr. Anmol Toppo	Assistant Commissioner, Tribal Youth Hostel Delhi
37.	Shri S. Of. Dutta	Raipur
38.	Mr. Suresh Kumar	

Annexure-ID

Gujarat

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Gamit Nitinbhai Nimabhai	Chairmain (Executive Committie)
2.	Ganvit Jaydipbhai Jayrambhai	Dolavan Taluka panchayat member
3.	Gamit Amulbhai Anilbhai	Champavadi (Vyara) Sarpanch
4.	Nileshkumar Arvindbhai Patel	Sarpanch Kakadvel Chikhli
5.	Nanubhai Harjibhai Mahala	Sarpanch Satimal
6.	Gumanbhai Dhediyabhai Rathva	District Member
7.	Rathva Milanbhai Navsingbhai	Taluka President
8.	Kakadbhai dhakalbhai ganvit	District panchayatMember
9.	Bharatabhai bavabhai jadav	District panchayatMember
10.	Manojbhai kikubhai patel	PRESIDENT VAPI
11.	Shree Jitendrkumar Jivabhai Bara	Sarpanch Vijaynagar
12.	Shree Damor Dhaneshvar Lalji	Sarpanch Vijaynagar
13.	Hemantkumar Dipabhai Rathva	Taluka Pramukh
14.	Chhelubhai Galubhai Rathva	Taluka member
15.	Shri Krunal R. Nampwkar	Under Secretary Revenue Deptt.

Line departments Officer Details

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Brijesh D. Chaudhari	DCF
2.	Shri Ketan Desai	Deputy Director
3.	Dr. C.C. Chaudhari	Executive Director
4.	Shri S. K. Modi	Collector , Narmada

Panchayati raj Officer Details

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	CHAVDA SHAILESH ARJUNBHAI	DY DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (PANCHAYAT
2.	Shri Prakash Rawat	TDO, Limkheda
3.	Shri Krunal Damor	TDO, Sanjeli

State Level Master Trainers List

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Kishor Chudhari	Master Trainer
2.	Manish Pancholi M	Master Trainer
3.	Manish Solanki	Master Trainer

Annexure-IE

Himachal Pradesh

The List of Nominations from the Department of Panchayati Raj, Himachal Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Mr. Raghav Sharma	Director cum-Special Secretary
2.	Ms. Niraj Chandla	Joint Secretary- cum- Nodal Officer PESA
3.	Mr. Pawan Kumar	Sub Panchayat Inspector, Pooh
4.	Mr. Rajat Puri	District PESA Coordinator, Chamba
5.	Ms. Dechen Chhomo	District PESA Coordinator, Lahaul & Spiti

List of SLMTs from Himachal Pradesh

1.	Mr. Parmeshwar Singh	Consultant, GPDP & PESA

List of Elected Representatives of Himachal Pradesh

1.	Mr. Hakam Singh Rana	Vice Chairperson, Zila Parishad Chamba
2.	Mr. Hans Raj	Member Panchayat Samiti Luj
3.	Mr. Dem Chand	Member Panchayat Samiti Kothi
4.	Mr. Deepak Singh	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Sural
5.	Mr. Baldev Ram	Pradhan Gram Panchayat, Luj
6.	Mr. Ram Singh	Up Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Sural
7.	Mr. Rajesh Sharma	Vice Chairperson Lahaul & Spiti
8.	Mr. Dinesh Kumar	Panchayat Samiti Member Lahaul
9.	Mr. Tashi Kesang	Panchayat Samiti Member Lahaul
10.	Ms. Promila	Panchayat Samiti Member, Lahaul
11.	Ms. Sheela	Member Panchayat Samiti, Lahaul
12.	Ms. Shanti Devi	Pradhan GP Barog
13.	Mr. Jagdish Kumar	Up- Pradhan Gram Panchayat Shakoli
14.	Mr. Devi Singh	Up- Pradhan Gram Panchayat Mooring
15.	Mr. Pradeep Kumar	Up- Pradhan, GP Kishori
16.	Ms. Priya Negi	Vice-Chairperson Zila Parishad Kinnaur
17.	Ms. Pratiba Kumari	Member Panchayat Samiti, Pooh
18.	Mr. Gokal Singh	Member Panchayat Samiti, Nichar
19.	Ms. Shashi Kala	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Akpa
20.	Ms. Anuradha	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Labrang
21.	Ms. Namgial Kumar	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Leo
22.	Mr. Anil Kumar	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Urni
23.	Ms. Kanta Devi	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Chagaon
24.	Ms. Krishana Devi	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Sapni
25.	Ms. Kumari Chandra	Up- Pradhan Gram Panchayat Batseri
26.	Ms. Anju Kumari	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Yulla
27.	Mr. Vijay Kumar	Pradhan Gram Panchayat Chaura
28.	Mr. Charan Singh	Ward Member, Gram Panchayat Tranda,

List of Line Department Officers from Himachal Pradesh

1.	Mr. Guru Lal	District Mining Officer

Annexure- IF

Jharkhand

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Shishir Kumar Singh	Deputy Director, Department of Panchayati Raj , Jharkhand
2.	Shri Murari Charan Mahapatra	BPRO, CTI
3.	Shri Jitendra Kumar	
4.	Shri Nikhil Swapanil Ekka	E-Governance Faculty, SPRC, DoPR, Jharkhand
5.	Smt. Deepa Oraon	Panchayat Samiti Adhyaksh
6.	Shri Sunil Surin	Panchayat Samiti Adhyaksh
7.	Shri Aasha Kachhap	Panchayat Samiti Adhyaksh
8.	Smt. Sangeeta Devi	Panchayat Samiti Adhyaksh
9.	Smt. Rashmi Lakda	Mukhiya, Dudiya
10.	Shri Ram Prasad Baraik	Mukhiya, Bishunpur
11.	Shri Raju Oraon	Mukhiya, Jori
12.	Shri Chamra Oraon	Mukhiya, Hirhi
13.	Shri Basant Oraon	Mukhiya, Arkosa
14.	Shri Sunil Lakra	Mukhiya, Harmu
15.	Shri Parmeshwar Mahli	Mukhiya, Ydarabgu
16.	Smt. Savita Oraon	Mukhiya,Sapukera
17.	Smt. Jayanti Devi	Mukhiya, Sargiya
18.	Smt. Monika Topno	Mukhiya, Marcha
19.	Shri Sadho Oraon	Mukhiya,Neori
20.	Shri Bhuneswar Bedia	Mukhiya, Nawagarh
21.	Shri Krishna Munda	Mukhiya, Jonha
22.	Shri Navkrishna Lohra	Mukhiya, Bansiya
23.	Shri Amit Kumar Barla	Mukhiya,Peshrar
24.	Shri Saheb Ram Mandi	Mukhiya, Simdi
25.	Shri Simin Gari	Gram Pardhan, Mahilong
26.	Shri Mahadev Munda	Gram Pardhan, Kansili
27.	Shri Arjun Pahan	Gram Pardhan, Tati East
28.	Shri Balari Munda	Gram Pardhan, Sapukera
29.	Shri Sanjay Munda	Gram Pardhan, Ratu North
30.	Shri Arpan Oraon	Gram Pardhan, Latratu
31.	Shri Jayram Oraon	Padha Vyastha, President
32.	Shri Somra Khadiya	Pradhan
33.	Shri Fauda Oraon	Rajidiwan, Gumla
34.	Shri Sarswati Tudu	Mukhiya MT, South Karandi
35.	Shri Nand Kishor Singh	MT, CTI-Ranchi
36.	Shri Banaw Murmu	Mukhiya MT, Ghatsila
37.	Shri Sushant Kumar Dhoke	MT
38.	Smt. Divya Rashmi Barla	Master Trainer
39.	Shri Deepu Kumar	Deputy Director, Land & Revenue Department
40.	Shri Tepxr	DPRO

41.	Shri Aditya Ranjan	SPRC-BoPR
42.	Shri Arshad	SPRC- BoPR
43.	Shri Sudhir Baw	Secretary Welfare
44.	Shri P.R. Naidu	CF, Ranchi Deptt. Of Forest & Env.
45.	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Asst. Niring Officer DMG (JH)

Annexure-IG

Madhya Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Mr. Sammal Singh Dhurve	President, District – Parswada
2.	Shri Dhurpal Singh Masram	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Tikariya, District Panchayat-Parswada
3.	Mr. Deepak Bhuria	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Dhekalbadi, District Panchayat-Jhabua
4.	Shri D.L.Kumhare	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Bijadandi, District Panchayat-Bijadandi
5.	Shri Gangaram Kalme	President, District Panchayat-Kesla
6.	Shri Moolchandra Kasde	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Silwani, District Panchayat-Kesla
7.	Kunwar Divyaditya Shah	President, District Panchayat-Khandwa
8.	Mr. Praveen Mahesh Kasde	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Sunderdev, District Panchayat Khanwa
9.	Mr. Manish Singh (Bablu)	President, District Panchayat-Pali
10.	Shri Purushottam Singh	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Baradhar District Panchayat-Pali 2 (Gohparu)
11.	Mr. Balwant Singh Patel	President, District Panchayat-Barwani
12.	Mr. Ummen Singh	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Morgun, District Panchayat-Rajpur
13.	Mrs. Sonu Bhalavi	Member, Gram Panchayat-Betul
14.	Mrs. Lalita Dhurve	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Ratamati, District Panchayat-Bhimpur
15.	Shri Bapu Singh Parihar	Vice President, District Panchayat-Khargone
16.	Ms. Sunita Chauhan	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Supala, District
17.	Mr. Indersingh Dawar	President, District Panchayat-Chandra Shekhar Azad Nagar
18.	Mr. Jaipal Kharat	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Walpur, District Panchayat-Sondwa
19.	Shri Gangaram Jhunkaru Marco	President, District Panchayat-Burhanpur
20.	Smt. Gangabai Gangaram Marco	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Dedtalai, District Panchayat-Sidhi
21.	Smt. Manjuram Ji Singh	President, District Panchayat-Sidhi
22.	Mrs. Rambai Singh	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Guduadhar, District Panchayat-Kusmi
23.	Mr. Satish Bhalavi	President, District Panchayat-Bichhua
24.	Mr. Arun Kumar Sarathe	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Ghatkamtha, District Panchayat-Bichhua
25.	Mr. Rudesh Paraste	President, District Panchayat-Dindauri
26.	Mrs. Heera Rudesh Paraste	Member, District Panchayat-Dindauri
27.	Mrs. Kailashi Bai Charel	President, District Panchayat-Sailana
28.	Mr. Samrath Bhabhar	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Kangsi, District Panchayat-Sailana

29.	Mr. Lalvibhor Waskel	President, Gram Panchayat-Umarban
30.	Mr. Amarsingh Solanki	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat-Ambasoti, District Panchayat-Bagh
31.	Mr. Gopal Khurana	Deputy Director
32.	Mr. Sudhir Jain	Deputy Director
33.	Shri Ishwar Singh Verma	Assistant Director
34.	Mr. Ravindra Parmar	Officer-in-charge, Office Collector (Mineral Branch) District Chhindwara
35.	Shri Prabhat Singh Chauhan	Assistant Planning Officer
36.	Dr. Sanjay Kumar Rajput	Faculty Member
37.	Dr. Trilochan Singh	Faculty Member
38.	Mr. Vinod Singh	Faculty Member, ETC, Seoni
39.	Mr Chandresh Kumar Lad	Faculty Member, ETC, Indore
40.	Shri Rajkumar Singh Thakur	Superintendent
41.	Shri Manoj P.V.S	Commissioner Panchayat
42.	Mr. Sanjay Kumar	Additional Secretary
43.	Mr. Abhijeet Aggarwal	IAS , MP
44.	Dr. G. Narendra Kumar Deputy Director	IAS , DG

Annexure- IH

Maharashtra

Nominations from Panchayat Raj Department/State Rural Development Institution

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Veena Supekar	Assistant professon, YASHADA, Pune
2.	Smt. Varsha Bharose	Joint Secretary, Rural Development Department
3.	Shri Shekhar Supekar	Director (PESA) , State of Maharashtra
4.	Shri Vivek Jadhavar	Training and Capacity Building Specilist, State Pesa Cell, Pune

Representatives from related line Department

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Supriya Shrikar Dhavre	Draftsman Cum Joint Secretary, Law & Judiciary Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
2.	Shri Roshan Meshram	Deputy Director, Directorate of Geology and Mines, Nagpur

Nominations of State Level Proficient Trainers

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Balasaheb Kale	Deputy Director, Land Record (Retd.), Dist. Pune
2.	Shri Milind Thatte	Founder, Vayam, Javhar, Dist. Palghar
3.	Shri Rakesh Wagh	District Pesa Co-Ordinator, Z.P. Nashik
4.	Shri Vikas Patil	District Pesa Co-Ordinator, Z.P., Palghar

Nomination of People's Representatives in Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad under Scheduled Areas.

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Prakash Krushna Nikam	President, Zilla Parishad, Palghar
2.	Shri Ashok Atmaram Patil	Chairman, Panchayat Samiti, Vasai, Dist. Palghar
3.	Shri Pravin Mahadu Gavali	Chairman, Panchayat Samiti, Dahanu, Dist. Palghar
4.	Shri Yuvraj Mahadu Girandhale	Chairman, Panchayat Mokhada, District Palghar
5.	Shri Nandkumar Vanasha Hadal	Vice Chairman, Panchayat Samiti, Talasari, District Palghar
6.	Smt. Vijaya Rajkumar Mhatre	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Kudan, Tal. & Dist. Palghar
7.	Shri Prakash Pandurang Bhondave	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Sakhari, Tal. Mokhada, Dist. Palghar

8.	Smt. Ranjana Vitthal Choudhari	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Palsan, Tal. Surgana, Dist. Nashik
9.	Shri Balasaheb Sahadu Dhage	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Katalapur, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar
10.	Shri Sunil Kalku Uike	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Doma, Tal. Chikhaldara, Dist. Amravati
11.	Shri Rajesh Kashiram Bethekar	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Savalikheda, Tal. Ralegaon, Dist. Yavatmal
12.	Shri Vijay Narayan Jangale	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Borghar, tal. Amegaon, Dist. Pune
13.	Shri Goving Ramji Sable	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Taleran, tal Junnar, Dist. Pune
14.	Shri Rahul Pandharinath Borse	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Torarigan, Tal. Trambakeshwar, Dist. Nashik
15.	Shri Dhanraj Gobru Umbare	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Choupale, Tal. Sakri, Dist. Dhule
16.	Shri Mubarak Ukhardu Tadvi	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Kusumbe Khud, Tal. Raver, Dist. Jalgaon
17.	Smt. Monatai Raju Tadvi	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Parsade Bu. Ta,. Yaval, Dist. Jalgaon
18.	Shri Nilesh Daulatrao Rothe	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Waradh, Tal. Ralegaon, Dist. Yavatmal
19.	Shri Sitaram Parasram Ade	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Karegaon, Tal. Zari Jamni, Dist. Yavatmal
20.	Shri Shankar Kistaya Madavi	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Devada, Tal. Rajura, Dist. Chandrapur
21.	Shri Nainesh Mahadev Atram	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Jevara, Tal. Korpana, Dist. Chandrapur
22.	Smt. Ranjita Dambaji Pendam	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Maushikhamb, Tal. & Dist. Gadchiroli
23.	Shri Gopal Laxman Uike	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Chadgaon, Tal. Dhanora, Dist. Gadchiroli
24.	Smt. Kanta Sobu Halami	Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Rajoli, Tal. & Dist. Gadchiroli
25.	Smt. Sonali R. Sakhare	Under Secretary, Law & Justice, Govt. of Maharashtra
26.	Shri Yatin Sawant	Add. Comm. , State Excise Maharashtra

Annexure-II

Odisha

The List of Nominations from Panchayat Raj Department, Odisha

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Sri Surendra Ku Meena, IAS	Director
2.	Shri Janmejay Sahu, OAS (JB)	OSD to Minister
3.	Dr Maheswar Swain, OAS	Director, PR
4.	Smt Amita Patra	Deputy Director
5.	Smt Pritishree Dash	Asst Director, Law
6.	Sri Maheswar Panigrahi	OSD (Special Secretary-Retd.)
7.	Sri Braja Kishore Pand	Faculty, FM
8.	Dr Doleswar Bhoi	Consultant, PR Administration
9.	Sri Sandeep Kumar Pattnaik	Consultant

List of SLMTS from different Departments of Govt. of Odisha

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
10.	Sri Karthick V, IFS	Conservator of Forest
11.	Sri Prabir Kumar Khilar	Joint Secretary

List of PRIs from PESA Districts

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
12.	Sri Ashok Kumar Puala	Sarapanch, Mirabali GP
13.	Ms Bilasinee Oram	Sarpanch, Launipada GP
14.	Ms Anima Kanhar	PS Chairperson
15.	Sri Judhisthir Bara	Sarpanch, Tudalaga GP
16.	Sri Pruthwiraj Majhi	Sarpanch, Kalimela GP
17.	Sri Mujib Ku Majhi,	Sarpanch, Tendra GP
18.	Sri Jatindranath Gond	ZP Member

Annexure - IJ

Rajasthan

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Sh. Indrajeet Singh	Dy. Commissioner & Dy. Secretary(First), PRD
2.	Sh. B. D. Kriplani	Establishment officer
3.	Sh. Hemant Kumawat	State Level Coordinator (PESA State), PRD
4.	Shri Barkat Ullah Sultani	Joint Legal Consultant
5.	Sh. Saurabh Sharma	SPM, PRD
6.	Sh. Rajendra Parmar	ZP Member
7.	Sh. Pannalal Yadav	ZP Member
8.	Sh. Kanti Lal Dodiyar	ZP Member
9.	Smt. Babli Devi	Sarpanch
10.	Sh. Dalpat Meena	ZP Member
11.	Sh. Reshmaram	PS Member
12.	Sh. Pawan Rathore	Sarpanch
13.	Shri Uday Shankar, IFS 96	APCCF Prot.
14.	Sh. AK Nandwana	SME
15.	Sh. Arif sheikh	SME
16.	Sh. Krishan Mohan Jangid	Jt. Director
17.	Shri Barkat Ullah Sultani	Jt. Legal Remem
18.	Shri Giriver Sharma	District Excise officer
19.	Smt. Kajal Sharma	Assistant Director, SIRD

Annexure - IK

Telangana

The List of Nominations from Panchayat Raj Department, Telangana

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
19.	Smt K. Padmaja Rani	Joint Director (PR)
20.	Smt. K. Prasuna Rani	Joint Director (RD)
21.	Sri A. Subhash Chandra Goud	Centre Head and Faculty, CWS & CSJ&VA
22.	Sri B. Raghavendra	Centre Head CRD&T
23.	Sri K. Anil Kumar	Centre Head CDP&A
24.	Smt. Anita R	Comm., PR
25.	Smt. P.V. Padma	Tribal Welfare DD Deptt.
26.	Shri P. Ravindra	Deputy Commissioner
27.	Shri visht Proun Singh	Tel.
28.	Shri Chadawant	PRO
29.	Mr. Creinedi	Official

The List of Nominations VIP Telangana

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. D.Anasuya Seethakka	Minister
2.	Ms. Shreeja	PS to Minister
3.	Shri G. Rakshith	LO
4.	Shri B. Swamy	JS
5.	Shri D. Bheema Naik, IFS	CCF, Bhadhadi

Annexure-II

National Conference on PESA Act

Date: 26th September, 2024

Venue: Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi

Programme Schedule

Sl. No.	Sessions	Timing
Registration and tea		9.00 – 9.55 am
Inaugural Session:		
1	**Lamp lighting and Welcome with plant & shawl**	10.00 – 10.05 am
2	**Welcome Address by Ms. Mamta Varma**, Joint Secretary, Policy Division, Ministry of Panchayati Raj	10.05 – 10.10 am
3	**Address by Shri. Malay Shrivastava**, ACS, Dept. of Panchayat and Rural Development, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	10.10 – 10.20 am
4	**Address by Shri Vibhu Nayar**, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs	10.20 – 10.30 am
5	**Address by Shri. Vivek Bharadwaj**, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj	10.30 – 10.40 am
6	**Short Film on PESA Act**	10.40 – 10.45 am
7	**Address by Shri. Anirudh Singh,** Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Himachal Pradesh	10.45 – 10.55 am
8	**Address by Dr. Danasari Anasuya Seethakka**, Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, Government of Telangana	10.55 – 11.05 am
9	**Launch by Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, andFisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** ➢ PESA – GPDP Portal	11.05 – 11.10 am
10	**Address by Shri. Prahlad Singh Patel,** Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh	11.10 – 11.20 am
11	**Launch by Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, andFisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** ➢ Training Modules on PESA	11.20 – 11.25 am
12	**Address by Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel**, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	11.25 – 11.40 am
13	**Video Address by Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh,** Hon'ble Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	11.40 – 11.45 am

14	Felicitation of the Dignitaries by Sr. Officers of MoPR	11.45 am – 11.55 am
15	**Group Photograph (3 Groups)** - Group 1: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Jharkhand - Group 2: Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh - Group 3: Rajasthan, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh	11.55 am – 12.15 pm
Tea Break: 12.15 – 12.30 pm		
Technical Session 1		
16	**Panel Discussion** on **PESA Gram Sabha: Visualising Way Forward** **Chair:** Dr. Naval Jit Kapoor (IRS), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. **Panellist:** i. Smt. Anitha Ramachandran, Commissioner, Dept of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Govt. of Telangana ii. Shri. Surendra Kumar Meena, Director, SIRD & PR, Govt. of Odisha iii. Smt. Priyanka Rishi Mohabia, Director, Dept. of Panchayati Raj, Govt,of Chhattisgarh iv. Ms. Nisha Oraon, Director, Dept. of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Jharkhand v. Shri Shiv Shankar Singh Marbi, Adhyashk, Shankargarh Janpad Panchayat, Balrampur-ramanujganj District, Chhattisgarh vi. Smt. Bilasinee Oram, Sarpanch, Launipada Gram Panchayat, Joda Block, Keonjhar District, Odisha vii. Shri. Mahadev Munda, Pradhan Kansili Gram Panchayat, Karra Block, Khunti District, Jharkhand viii. Shri. Milind Thathe, TEER Foundation ix. Shri. Mahesh Mishra, Akhil BharatiyaVanavasi Kalyan Ashram (ABVKA) Sum-up by the Chair Felicitation of the Chair and panellist by Sr. Govt. Officer,MoPR	12.30 – 1.45 pm
Lunch Break: 1.45 – 2.15 pm		
Technical Session 2		
17	**Panel Discussion** on **Strengthening the PESA Economies: Forest Rights Act (FRA), Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and MinorMineral** **Chair:** Ms. Alka Tiwari (IAS), Secretary, National Commission	

	for Scheduled Tribes, Govt. of India **Panellist:** i. Dr. Joga Ram, Secretary & Commissioner, Dept. of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Rajasthan ii. Shri.V.R.Krishna Teja Mylavarapu, Director, Dept. of Panchayati Rajand Rural Development, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh iii. Smt. Varsha Bharose, Joint Secretary Dept of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Maharashtra iv. Shri. Prakashji Nikam, President, Palghar Zilla Parishad from Maharashtra v. Shri. Dalpat Meena, Zilla Parishad Member, Pratapgarh, Rajasthan vi. Shri. Petteli Dasu Babu, Sarpanch, Pedalabudu Gram Panchayat, Araku Valley Mandal, Alluri Seetha Rama Raju District, Andhra Pradesh vii. Shri. Anish Kumar, Managing Director, TRIF India viii. Shri. Girish Kuber, Advisor, Janjati Hitraksha Issues, ABVKA **Sum-up by the Chair** Felicitation of the Chair and panellist by Sr. Govt. Officer,MoPR	2.15 – 3.30 pm
Team Break: 3.30 – 3.45 pm		
Technical Session 3		
18	**Panel Discussion** on **Empowering the Last Mile: Saturation of PESA Training Modules and Effective IEC.** **Chair:** Dr. G Narendra Kumar (IAS), Director General, National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj **Panellists:** i. Shri. Malay Shrivastava, ACS, Dept. of Panchayat andRural Development, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh ii. Shri. Raghav Sharma, Director-cum-Special Secretary, Dept. of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh iii. Shri Sanjay K. Modi, Collector & DM, Narmada District, Govt. of Gujarat iv. Shri. Sanjay Kushram, Chairman, Zilla Parishad Mandala, Madhya Pradhya v. Shri. Manoj Patel, President, Zilla Parishad, Valsad District, Gujarat	3.45 – 5.00 pm

	vi. Shri. Rajesh Sharma, Chairman, Zilla Parishad, Lahual & Spiti District, Himachal Pradesh vii. Shri Sanjay Kulkarni. Janjati Hitraksha Pramukh, ABVKA viii. Shri Chandrashekhar Pran, Founder, Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan **Sum-up by the Chair** Felicitation of the Chair and panellist by Sr. Govt. Officer, MoPR	
19	**Demonstration on the PESA-GPDP Portal** by Sh. Sanjay.K. Joshi, Sr. Director-NIC & Team	5.00 – 5.15 pm
20	**Open House Session**	5.15 – 5.30 pm
Valedictory Session		
21	**Welcome & Summing up** of the Conference by Ms. Mamta Varma, Joint Secretary, MoPR	5.30 - 5.37 pm
22	**Address by** Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj	5.37 - 5.47 pm
23	**Key Note Address** by Hon'ble Minister of State Shri Durgadas Uikey, Ministry of Tribal Affairs	5.47 - 6.07 pm
24	**Vote of Thanks** by Shri Ramit Maurya, Director, Policy Division, Ministry of Panchayati Raj	6.07 - 6.10 pm