

JAN SATYAGRAHA

.....an update on follow up actions

(11 January- 11 February, 2013)

- The Government of India has announced (11th January 2013) double the amount under Indira Awas Yojana (Rural Housing Scheme duly supported by Central and State Government). The program Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), established in 1985 to help rural communities access housing. According to agreement between Jan Satyagraha and Government of India (11th October 2012), the Government of India has granted an additional component for purchasing land to for the shelter-less poor. According to Minister of Finance (Government of India) the new allocation of about 4500 Crore (450 Billion) rupees has also been made in order to ensuring land & dignity to the rural shelter-less poor community.
- Formal draft legislation for ensuring “Homestead Land to each Rural Shelter less Poor” has been drafted for submission to Government of India. The proposed draft legislation has suggested allotment of 10 cents of land to each and every homeless rural poor. The draft also suggested operating this legislation within a timeframe of 5-10 years as mandatory mission. This draft is being revised in consultation with different land experts and groups of lawyers.
- A draft on Land Tribunal/ Fast Track Courts has also been prepared for the Government of India with a focus on speedy disposal of land-related disputes pending in different courts. The Ministry of Law (Government of India) plans to bring in new legal guidelines soon to be followed up with States. It also includes a provision for legal aid in order to ensure financial support to poor people while they are fighting for their land rights in courts.

- A team of activists, lawyers and researchers have devoted substantial time to frame the new avenues of legal compliance with the Land Revenue Code of each State. A detailed draft 'Advisory & Directives' has also been prepared after several rounds of discussion with all stake holders. The Government of India has organized a National Consultation in which Revenue Secretaries and Concerned officials will participate and give their inputs in order to ensure the implementation of the given 'Advisory & Directives' to State governments.

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