

To,  
Shri. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, (IAS)  
The District Collector,  
Panna

Sub: International Women's Day Representations from ST Women-request

your kind attention

Dear Sir,

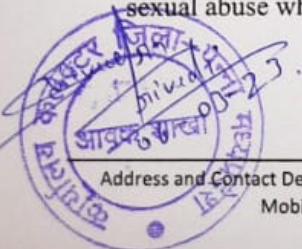
We are working for the development needs of Adivasi women and children in Panna district. On the occasion of the International Women's Day, we wish to bring to your kind attention, the problems faced by women and children in Bador, Manor, Darera, Janakpur, Madla and Sakariya panchayats. We are submitting village-wise representations and request for your kind action and intervention which are enclosed herewith. Some of the main issues in all these villages are as follows:

1.Many ST families have not yet received pattas under the Forest Rights Act. We request that claims are registered and pattas issued to eligible families.

2. Water is a severe crisis as many water sources have been destroyed by irresponsible mining. Women are facing many problems. We request for DMF funds given to MGNREGS programme for providing employment to ST women for undertaking regeneration of water bodies.

3. MGNREGS job cards, ration cards, pensions are still due to many ST families. We request for enumeration and issue of the same.

4. Women are facing a lot of harassment and difficulties in collecting firewood when they go into the forest. Criminalisation of poor women for their cooking needs is a serious threat to their security. Many families still did not receive LPG connection and majority of them are too poor to pay for refilling the gas. We request that all families be provided with LPG connection and that all BPL families be provided with free refilling facilities atleast 4 times per year. Otherwise, girls are dropping out of school for firewood collection and also facing sexual abuse when they go to collect firewood.



5. In Panna district there are many ST families who are forced to work in illegal and small scale mines and are suffering from Silicosis. We request for DMF funds to be allocated for proper medical equipment and facilities at PHC for diagnosis and continuous treatment, supplementary nutrition for silicosis victims, pension and rehabilitation programme.

Many ST children are dropping out of school. We request for proper survey of children, special drive for retention through conducting special summer classes, including breakfast and mid-day meal in order to prevent malnutrition, school-drop out and child labour.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

*Aspitha bai Naik* (Aspitha)

For Dr. Bhanumathi Kalluri  
Executive Director