

CHAPTER 8

Land Reforms

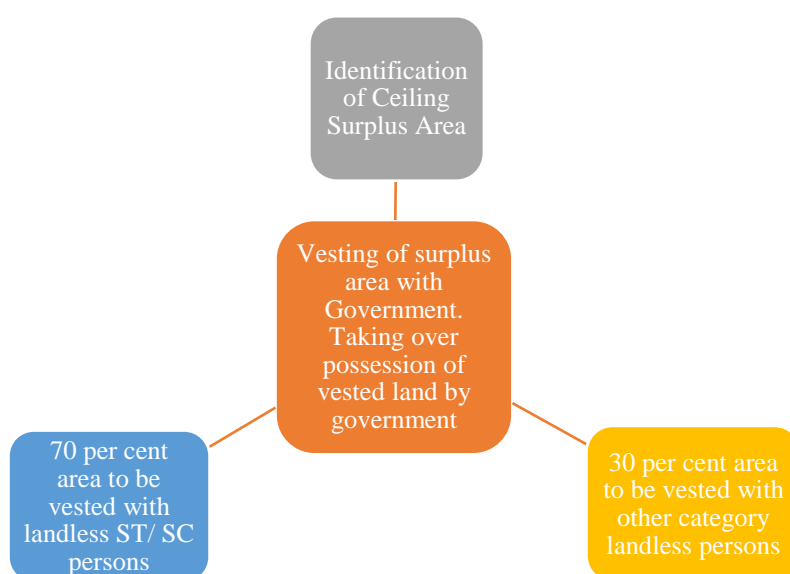
The Orissa Land Reforms (OLR) Act, 1960, aims at equitable distribution of land, by taking over of ceiling surplus land, for eventual distribution among landless households, as well as regulation of the sale of SC land. Audit scrutinised the disposal of cases of Ceiling Surplus area and the following significant audit observations emerged:

- *As many as 50 cases, involving 1,220.16 acres, were pending for disposal, in five of the sampled districts. Four of these cases had been pending since 1973-74.*
- *Out of 44,251.943 acres of Ceiling Surplus land, vested with the Government, possession of 1,462.622 acres had not been taken by the RDM Department, as of December 2022.*
- *Government had taken possession of Ceiling Surplus land measuring 42,789.321 acres. Of this, 3,460.678 acres had not been distributed among the landless households.*
- *In the eight sampled Sub-Collectorates, out of 2,626 applications received during 2017-22, from SC land owners, seeking permission for disposal of their land, 635 applications were still pending, as of March 2022.*
- *During 2017-22, 249 cases had been instituted in the eight sampled Sub-Collectorates, for restoration of SC land. Of these, 142 cases were pending for disposal, as of March 2022.*
- *In the six sampled districts, 898, out of 21,659 identified landless households, had not been provided with homestead land, under the Vasundhara Scheme. Moreover, a survey, for identification of landless households, had been last done in 2018, although the same was required to be done in each quarter, as mandated by the RDM Department. This was despite the fact that there were 7,462 landless households in the Permanent Waiting List of PMAY-G.*

In order to: (i) confer better rights on agriculturists, (ii) ensure increase in food production, by equitable distribution of land and (iii) safeguard the property rights of the SC/ ST population, the State Government enacted the Orissa Land Reforms (OLR) Act, 1960. The Act, *inter alia*, provides for regulation on the sale of SC land and distribution of ceiling surplus land.

As per Section 37A of the OLR Act, 1960, land holdings, in excess of 10 standard acres⁹¹, possessed by a person having five family members, or in excess of 18 standard acres⁹², in case the members of the family exceed five, are to be considered as ‘Ceiling Surplus area’. Upon identification of the ceiling surplus area, the authorized Revenue Officer, *i.e.* the Tahasildar concerned, is to institute a case and dispose of the same, after due examination. The Ceiling Surplus area, if any, is to be published, vested upon the Government and the surplus land parcels are to be taken into possession. As per Section 51 of the OLR Act, 70 per cent of the surplus land, vested with the Government, should be settled with landless persons, belonging to the STs or SCs, in proportion to their respective populations in the villages concerned. The remaining land is to be settled with landless persons of other categories, as depicted in **Chart 8.1**.

Chart 8.1: Process of identification and distribution of ceiling surplus land



Audit scrutinised the disposal of cases instituted for identifying and taking over Ceiling Surplus area, as also the area taken over and distributed, in five of the sampled districts (the District Collector, Koraput, did not furnish information regarding vesting and distribution of ceiling surplus area).

8.1 Disposal of Ceiling Surplus land cases

The cases instituted, disposed and pending for disposal, as well as the area involved in the pending cases, in the five out of six⁹³ sampled districts, are tabulated in **Table 8.1**.

⁹¹ ‘Standard acre’ means the unit of measurement of land equivalent to one acre of Class I land (irrigated land in which two or more crops can be grown in a year), one and one half acres of Class II land (irrigated land, in which not more than one crop can be grown in a year), three acres of Class III land (other than irrigated land, in which paddy can be grown in a year) or four and one half acres of Class IV land (any other land).

⁹² To be increased by two standard acres for each member in excess of five. However, the ceiling area shall not exceed eighteen standard acres.

⁹³ The Collector, Koraput did not furnish the information on institution and disposal of ceiling surplus cases.

Table 8.1: Pendency of Ceiling Surplus cases

District	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of cases pending for disposal	Area involved in pending cases (in acres)
Kalahandi	5,448	5,414	34	449.39
Keonjhar	1,522	1,519	3	269.57
Mayurbhanj	1,035	1,031	4	305.47
Nabarangpur	850	843	7	130.01
Sundargarh	2,717	2,715	2	65.72
Total	11,572	11,522	50	1,220.16

(Source: Records of the Offices of the sampled Collectors and Tahasildars)

The Tahasildars of the sampled districts, had not maintained data on the age-wise pendency of cases. Audit, however, noticed that four of the pending cases had been lying pending⁹⁴ since 1973-74.

In reply, the Collectors, Sundargarh and Kalahandi districts, assured that steps would be taken for disposal of the pending cases. Responses of the Collectors of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Nabarangpur districts, had, however, not been received (as of October 2023).

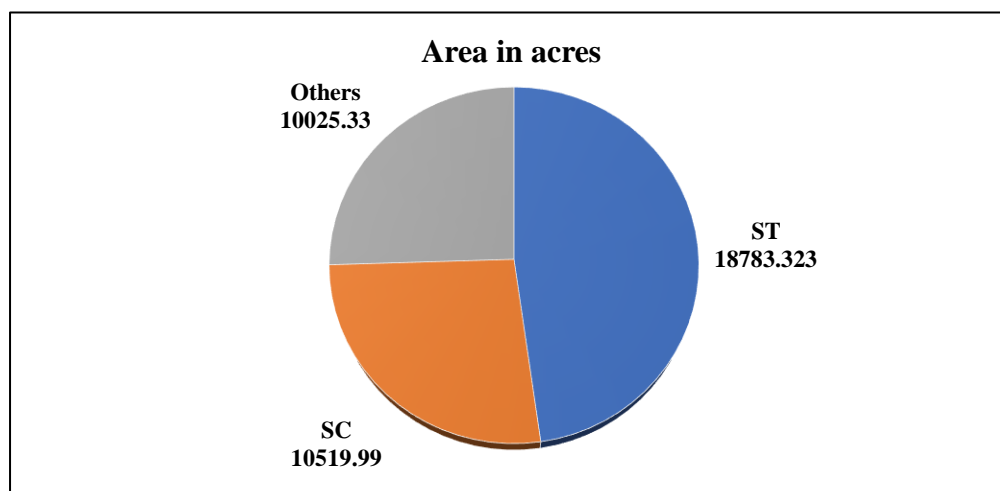
8.2 Taking over possession and distribution of ceiling surplus land

In the five sampled districts, surplus land, measuring 44,251.943 acres, was vested with the Government. Of this, the RDM Department had taken possession of 42,789.321 acres (96.69 per cent), leaving 1,462.622 acres (3.31 per cent), which had not been taken possession of. Of the 42,789.321 acres that had been taken possession of, 39,328.643 acres (91 per cent) had been distributed among 30,487 landless persons⁹⁵, as of March 2022 and 3,460.678 acres were still lying with the Government, as of December 2022. On the other hand, as per the information furnished (August 2021) by the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, in the five sampled districts, 7,462 landless households were included in the Permanent Waiting List for housing assistance, under the Prime Minister Awaas Yojana – Gramin, due to non-availability of land in their names. The share of land, distributed among the landless persons of different categories, is depicted in **Chart 8.2**.

⁹⁴ Sundargarh:2 and Nabarangpur: 2

⁹⁵ ST: 14,584, SC: 7,706 and other categories: 8,197

Chart 8.2: Distribution of Ceiling Surplus land among different groups



8.2.1 Non-taking over possession of 1,462.622 acres of Ceiling Surplus land

As per Section 45-A of the OLR Act, 1960, the persons in possession of the surplus land are to deliver possession thereof, to the Revenue Officer, within fifteen days, from the date of vesting of the land with the Government. In case, there is any standing crop on the land, on the said date, possession is to be taken within fifteen days, from the harvesting of such crop.

Audit noticed, in five sampled districts, that possession of surplus land, to the extent of 1,462.622 acres, had not been taken, despite the land having been vested with the Government. The reasons noted in this regard, in the records, are as given in **Table 8.2**:

Table 8.2: Reasons for non-taking over possession of vested Ceiling Surplus land

Reasons	Area in acres
Locked-up in litigation	1,345.30
Validity transferred	15.68
Other reasons	94.532
Reasons, not recorded	7.11
Total	1,462.622

(Source: Records of the Offices of the sampled Collectors and Tahasildars)

The meaning of the term ‘validity transferred,’ was not on record. The officials of the District Collectorate could not elaborate the reasons for pendency of cases recorded under ‘Other reasons’.

8.2.2 Non-distribution of 3,460.678 acres of Ceiling Surplus land

Audit noticed, in the five sampled districts that, 3,460.678 acres of Ceiling Surplus land, vested with the Government, had not been distributed to the eligible families. District-wise areas taken over and distributed, as of December 2022, are shown in **Table 8.3**.

Table 8.3: District-wise position of non-distribution of Ceiling Surplus land

District	Area taken over (in acres)	Area distributed (in acres)	Balance with the Government (in acres)
Kalahandi	25,372.66	23,842.58	1,530.08
Keonjhar	1,419.015	1,306.945	112.07

District	Area taken over (in acres)	Area distributed (in acres)	Balance with the Government (in acres)
Mayurbhanj	4,059.19	2,841.37	1,217.82
Nabarangpur	2,880.356	2,832.368	47.988
Sundargarh	9,058.10	8,505.38	552.72
Total	42,789.321	39,328.643	3,460.678

(Source: Records of the Offices of the sampled Collectors and Tahasildars)

Audit noticed that:

- In the Baripada Tahasil of Mayurbhanj district, possession of 900.7 acres of Ceiling Surplus land, had been taken by Government, in September 2019. However, the said land had not been distributed among the eligible landless families.
- Land measuring 204.482 acres⁹⁶ had not been distributed, recording the reason as ‘Other miscellaneous reasons’, without elaboration of the exact reasons.
- The land, remaining with the Government, had not been distributed and there were no recorded reasons for the same.

8.2.3 Non-demarcation and non-correction of RoRs of allotted Ceiling Surplus land

After settlement of Ceiling Surplus land, RoRs were to be corrected, to reflect the name of the persons/ families, to whom the said land had been distributed and demarcation of settled land, was to be carried on. In this regard, Audit noticed that:

- In three sampled districts, RoRs in regard to 2,818.24 acres⁹⁷ of Ceiling Surplus land, were not corrected in favour of the persons/ families, to whom these were distributed.
- In Sundargarh Tahasil, 16.64 acres⁹⁸ of Ceiling Surplus land had been distributed, during 1977 to 1983, but RoRs had not been corrected in favour of the allottee families and the land remained under ‘bebandobasta’, i.e., the ‘unsettled’ category. In the absence of RoRs in the names of the allottees, the Tahasildar vested (September 2020) the land with the Government. Thus, the land that had been distributed to the landless population, was reverted back to the Government, due to non-correction of records.
- As per the information furnished by the Collector, Keonjhar, RoRs in regard to all Ceiling Surplus land, distributed in the Champua Tahasil, had been corrected. Audit, however, noticed that RoRs, in regard to 5.60 acres of land, given to four landless persons (ST: 3 and SC: 1) of villages Parbatipur and Singamajuni (presently coming under the Jhumpura Tahasil), had not been corrected. The RoRs stood recorded in the name

⁹⁶ Sundargarh: 69.20 acres, Keonjhar: 95.71 acres, Mayurbhanj: 25 acres and Nabarangpur: 14.572 acre

⁹⁷ Kalahandi: 1358.61 acre, Mayurbhanj: 536.67 acre and Sundargarh: 922.96 acre

⁹⁸ Village Birbira: 6.26 acres and Village Dhaulakhaman: 10.38 acres

of the Ceiling Land holder⁹⁹ (5.19 acres) and two other individuals (0.41 acre), having been transferred to them during 1992 and 2005, by the ceiling land holder.

- Demarcation of 1,736.61 acres (Kalahandi: 1437.61 acres, Mayurbhanj: 205.08 acres, Sundargarh: 93.92 acres) of Ceiling Surplus land, had not been done, though the said land had been distributed among landless families.

Recommendation 8.1: Cases instituted for taking over of the Ceiling Surplus land, should be disposed of at the earliest. Government should take possession of the Ceiling Surplus land, settled in its favour and ensure its distribution, among the eligible population, at the earliest.

8.3 Restoration of land belonging to Scheduled Caste

As per Sections 22 and 23 of the OLR Act, 1960, any transfer of land belonging to a SC, shall be treated as void, unless it is in favour of a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a person not belonging to a SC, when such transfer is made with previous permission, in writing, of a Revenue Officer.

As per Sections 23-A of the OLR Act, 1960, where a person is found to be in unauthorised occupation of land, belonging to an SC, by way of trespass or otherwise, the Revenue Officer may order eviction of the person, in unauthorised occupation and shall restore the property to the said *raiyat*¹⁰⁰ or to his/ her heir. The RDM Department instructed (January 2021) all Collectors/ Sub Collectors, to dispose of the cases filed under Sections 23 and 23-A of the OLR Act, 1960, within a period of 12 months from the date of institution of such cases, unfailingly, except for legal reasons, if any.

8.3.1 Delay in disposal of cases, relating to permission for sale of SC land

Scrutiny of records of eight sampled Sub-Collectorates revealed that 2,626 applications, seeking permission for sale of SC land, were available for disposal, during FYs 2017-18 to 2021-22. Of these, 1,991 cases had been disposed of, leaving a balance of 635 cases pending, as of March 2022, as detailed in **Table 8.4**.

Table 8.4: Sub-Collectorate-wise pendency of cases

Sub-Collectorate	No. of cases				
	Available for settlement	Disposed of	Pending, as of March 2022	Test-checked in Audit	Period of pendency (in months)
Baripada	170	145	25	0	-
Bhawanipatna	1,772	1,392	380	10	5 to 38
Champua	55	43	12	12	4 to 26
Kaptipada	67	42	25	20	3 to 51
Koraput	192	144	48	10	18 to 34
Nabarangapur	148	48	100	10	24 to 51
Panposh	45	42	3	0	-

⁹⁹ The original land owner, from whom the Ceiling Surplus land had been vested to the Government

¹⁰⁰ A person, who has acquired a right to hold land for the purpose of cultivating it

Sub-Collectorate	No. of cases				
	Available for settlement	Disposed of	Pending, as of March 2022	Test-checked in Audit	Period of pendency (in months)
Sundargarh	177	135	42	10	6 to 33
Total	2,626	1,991	635	72	

(Source: Records of the Offices of the test-checked Sub-Collectors and Tahasildars)

Audit test-checked 72 pending cases, in six of the sampled Sub-Collectorates¹⁰¹ and noticed that:

- Five Sub-Collectors¹⁰² had not disposed of 10 pending cases, despite having received the required reports, from the concerned Tahasildars and other concerned functionaries.
- In regard to the remaining 62 cases, pending with six Sub-Collectors¹⁰³, reports from the concerned Tahasildars and other concerned functionaries, had not been received.
- The concerned applicants had sought permission to sell their land for various purposes, like medical treatment, marriage of their children, legal necessities, construction of houses, etc. Despite such compelling reasons, these cases had not been settled, for periods ranging from 3 to 51 months.

Due to these delays in the disposal of cases, the SC applicants had been deprived of the intended benefits extended under the Act.

8.3.2 Pendency of cases, instituted for restoration of land belonging to SC persons

The status of cases, instituted for restoration of land belonging to SC persons, in the eight sampled Sub-Collectorates, including their disposal and pendency, as of March 2022, are shown in **Table 8.5**.

Table 8.5: District-wise status of institution, disposal and pendency of cases

Sub-Collectorate	No. of cases for restoration of land belonging to SC persons		
	Instituted	Disposed of	Pending, as of March 2022
Baripada	53	36	17
Bhawanipatna	49	16	33
Champua	48	42	6
Kaptipada	7	4	3
Koraput	15	0	15
Nabarangapur	21	0	21
Panposh	11	4	7
Sundargarh	45	5	40
Total	249	107	142

(Source: Records of the Offices of the sampled Sub-Collectors and Tahasildars)

¹⁰¹ Sundargarh: 10; Kaptipada: 20; Koraput: 10; Champua: 12; Bhawanipatna: 10; Nabarangapur: 10

¹⁰² Bhawanipatna: 03; Champua: 02; Kaptipada: 01; Koraput: 03; Sundargarh: 01

¹⁰³ Bhawanipatna: 07; Champua: 10; Kaptipada: 19; Koraput: 07; Nabarangpur: 10; Sundargarh: 09

Audit test-checked 72 pending case¹⁰⁴ records and noticed the following:

- In 21 cases, instituted in six of the sampled Sub-Collectorates, during June 2003 to November 2021, the Sub-Collectors had not asked the Tahasildars, for submission of their enquiry reports.
- In 35 cases, the Tahasildars had not submitted their enquiry reports, even after lapses of 4 to 90 months, from the dates of instructions being given for submission of such report.
- In regard to the remaining 16 cases, despite submission of reports (August 2017 to August 2022) by the Tahasildars, the cases had not been disposed of by the Sub-Collectors. Audit examined 16 cases, where the Tahasildars had submitted enquiry reports and found, in five cases, that the Tahasildars had indicated unauthorised occupation of 3.70 acres of land belonging to SC persons. An instance is cited below:

Case study: 8.1

In Case No. 03/15, instituted at Sub-Collectorate, Koraput, the petitioner (an SC person) had filed (October 2015) a petition, alleging unauthorised occupation of his three acres of land,¹⁰⁵ by a Government office, i.e. the Assistant Surgeon, Veterinary, Nandapur. The Tahasildar, Nandapur, reported (August 2017) that the land stood recorded in the name of the petitioner, but the Block Veterinary Office had constructed a dispensary building, along with staff quarters and road, on 1.70 acres and the remaining 1.30 acres of land was in its possession, without construction of any structure. It was also reported that the entire land area of 3 acres had been donated by the recorded tenants, through an unregistered gift deed, in the year 1960, without valid permission of competent authority and there was no record of payment of compensation to the land owner, in lieu of such land donated. Despite the report of the Tahasildar, no action had been taken by the Sub-collector on the petition, even after a lapse of about five years.

8.3.3 Non-restoration of SC land, despite issue of delivery warrants

In two districts (Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar), 265 delivery warrants, involving 107.533 acres of land, were pending for execution, as of March 2022. Audit test-checked 12 pending warrants, involving 2.343 acres of land and noticed that they had been pending for execution by the Tahasildars, for periods ranging from three to seven years. The Sub-Collectors had not taken steps for execution of these warrants. Due to this, the SC land owners had continued to remain deprived of their land.

8.4 Allotment of homestead land, to homestead less families, under the 'Vasundhara' Scheme

The RDM Department launched (1974-75) a flagship programme, named "Vasundhara", with the objective of providing homestead government land, up

¹⁰⁴ Baripada: 17; Sundargarh: 7; Kaptipada: 3; Koraput: 10; Champua: 6; Bhawanipatna: 12; Nabarangapur: 10; Panposh: 7

¹⁰⁵ Village Nandapur, Khata No. 13, Plot No. 108, under Nandapur Tahasil

to 0.04 acre, to eligible homesteadless persons¹⁰⁶, free of premium, in rural areas of the State. The Department clarified (December 2017) that allotment of homestead land would be a continuous process, in view of the fact, that families keep getting divided as the population increases, with persons getting married and setting up new families. The Department also instructed that applications be invited from the deserving families, homestead land be provided to eligible families and the list of homesteadless families be updated, on a quarterly basis.

8.4.1 Non-conduct of regular surveys, to identify families without homestead land

The last survey, to identify homesteadless families, had been conducted in 2018, although the same was to be conducted in each quarter, as per the instructions of the RDM Department. Audit noticed, in this regard, that:

- During the joint beneficiary survey (September 2022 to January 2023), by Audit, with the RIs concerned, in four villages of three Tahasils, 78 families¹⁰⁷ intimated that they were homesteadless and had been staying on Government land, for a long time. They had applied for allotment of homestead land, but no land had been provided to them (as of December 2022).
- As per the data furnished by the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, there were 46,949 landless households in the State, as of February 2021, who were in the Permanent Waiting List (PWL), for sanction of houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin). In the six sampled districts, the landless households included in the PWL, stood at 7,462, as detailed in **Table 8.6**.

Table 8.6: Sampled District-wise status of landless households included in the PWL

Sampled District	No. of landless households included in the PWL
Kalahandi	533
Koraput	0
Keonjhar	842
Mayurbhanj	4,988
Nabarangpur	813
Sundargarh	286
Total	7,462

(Source: Records of the Department of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water)

Audit observed that, although the Vasundhara Scheme had been in operation since 1974-75, identification of landless households, on a periodic basis, had not been ensured, due to which, these landless households had not been provided homestead land, to enable them to construct their dwelling units, with financial assistance from PMAY. This is indicative of the lackadaisical attitude of the authorities concerned, in achieving the mission objective of 'Housing for All'.

¹⁰⁶ Homesteadless families are those families who hold no other land in any capacity, whatsoever and include the heirs of the person and whose annual income does not exceed the amount fixed by government from time to time

¹⁰⁷ Kundekela and Deuli Villages under the Sundargarh Tahasil: 38 families; Lakhapat village, under the Koraput Tahasil: 37 families; Jareikela Village, under the Bisra Tahasil: 03 families

Thus, due to non-conduct of regular surveys, eligible beneficiaries were deprived of getting homestead land, under the 'Vasundhara' Scheme.

In reply, the Collector, Sundargarh and the Tahasildars of Barbil, Bisra, Champua, Koraput and Sundargarh, assured that steps would be taken, for conducting regular surveys, to identify homestead-less families.

8.4.2 Allotment of homestead land to homesteadless families

The progress in identification of homesteadless persons and allotment of homestead land, in the six sampled districts, as of March 2022, is tabulated in **Table 8.7**.

Table 8.7: Sampled District-wise position of homestead land provided

District Name	No. of families identified	No. of families provided homestead land	No. of families not provided homestead land	Percentage of families not provided homestead land
Kalahandi	3,777	3,777	0	0
Keonjhar	2,165	2,000	165	7.62
Koraput	5,150	4,736	414	8.00
Mayurbhanj	1,335	1,263	72	5.39
Nabarangpur	5,354	5,354	0	0
Sundargarh	3,878	3,631	247	6.37
Total	21,659	20,761	898	4.15

(Source: Records of the Offices of the sampled Collectors and Tahasildars)

As can be seen from **Table 8.7** only two districts, viz. Kalahandi and Nabarangapur, had provided homestead land to all the identified homestead less families. In the other districts, 5.39 to 8 per cent identified families, were still to be provided homestead land.

Audit observed that, in the Koraput district, five Tahasildars had rejected 414 eligible homesteadless persons, on the ground of non-availability of Government land. Further scrutiny revealed that the RDM Department had placed (November 2013) ₹ 26.52 lakh, with the Collector, Koraput, for purchase of private land, for providing homestead land to homesteadless families. The Collector had placed this fund with the Tahasildar, Narayanpatna, for purchase of private land, for providing homestead land to 202 families. The Tahasildar had, however, refunded the amount, in 2020. Reasons for refund of the amount were not shared with Audit. Thus, despite placement of funds for purchase of private land, for providing homestead land to homesteadless families, the claims of 414 eligible beneficiaries had been rejected on the ground of non-availability of government land.

Responses of the Collectors had not been received(as of October 2023).

8.4.3 Non-demarcation of land allotted under the Vasundhara scheme

Audit examination revealed that the Collector, Sundargarh, had provided (in 1983 and 1985) homestead land, to 140 homesteadless persons, in the Garjan village (40), under the Lathikata Tahasil and the Gariamunda village (100), under the Rajgangpur Tahasil under Vasundhara scheme. Demarcation of the land so allotted had, however, not been carried out. These villagers submitted (December 2020 and February 2021) their grievance before the Collector,

Sundargarh, for demarcation of the allotted land. The Additional District Magistrate, Sundargarh, instructed (December 2020 and February 2021) the Tahasildars to take necessary action in the matter. In response, the Tahasildar, Lathikata, intimated that four persons had encroached upon the allotted land and were opposing demarcation. The Tahasildar, despite being the empowered authority to institute and adjudicate encroachment cases, had not taken any action in this regard. No action was taken thereafter, either at the Tahasil or District levels, for demarcation of the said lands, due to which, the people of these villages, had not been able to construct houses on the allotted land.

Audit also conducted surveys of 108 beneficiaries, allotted with homestead land, under the Vasundhara Scheme, in the 12 sampled Tahasils. Audit noticed that demarcation of 1.54 acres of land, allotted in favour of 37 beneficiaries¹⁰⁸ had not been made. Audit further noticed that four beneficiaries of Barbil Tahasil had not been able to construct houses out of financial assistance provided under PMAY, owing to non-demarcation of allotted land. Consequently, the beneficiaries were not able to construct houses, and thus, remained deprived of availing the benefits of various social welfare schemes.

In reply, the Collector, Sundargarh and Tahasildars, Barbil and Bisra assured that demarcation of land, allotted under the Vasundhara scheme would be carried out, while the Tahasildars of Baripada, Koraput and Thuamul Rampur, did not furnish any reply.

8.5 Non-settlement of *Gramakantha Paramboke* (GKP) Land

As per OGLS (Amendment) Rules, 2010, a person who is in possession of GKP¹⁰⁹ land, in exercise of customary right or usage, or having acquired possession of such land, by way of transfer, through a registered deed of conveyance, from a person who was in lawful possession of such land for a period of at least three years prior to the appointed date, *i.e.*, 26th February 2009, shall be eligible for settlement of land in his/ her favour, for homestead purpose.

Scrutiny of records of the Office of the Tahasildar, Similiguda, revealed that 26 SC/ ST persons had applied for settlement of 0.44 acres of GKP land, in Kaki *mouza*, during 2018. The RIs concerned had reported (January 2019) that the lands had been under the actual possession of the applicants, since their forefathers' times and they were, thus, eligible for settlement of these lands in their favour. The Tahasildar had also approved (February 2019) settlement of the land, in favour of the applicants. As the land related to an urban area, the case records were sent (November 2019) to the Sub-collector, Koraput, for approval. The case records were returned (November 2019) with the instruction for resubmission, after complying with certain defects¹¹⁰. However, the Tahasildar had not rectified these defects, even after a lapse of more than two years. As a result, these GKP lands had not been settled in favour of the above SC/ ST persons (as of September 2022).

¹⁰⁸ Baripada: 6; Bisra: 4; Koraput: 11; Thuamul Rampur: 12; Barbil: 4

¹⁰⁹ A type of government land

¹¹⁰ Non-enclosing of combined title page, non-publication of general proclamation, non-availability of signature of witness, non-deposit of *salami*, absence of page numbering in file, non-attestation of enclosed documents *etc.*

In reply, the Tahasildar stated that, after receipt of report from the RI concerned, further compliance would be submitted.

Recommendation 8.2: Surveys of landless households should be carried out periodically and the identified landless households should be provided with homestead land, for construction of dwelling units.