This was the letter Mailed to <u>bandipore@nic.in</u> <u>adc.bandipore@jk.gov.in</u> <u>dcbandipora-jk@gov.in</u> <u>pa.bandipora@jk.gov.in</u>

December 3, 2025

Respected District Magistrate Ms.Indu Kanwal Chib Sahiba

District Bandipora J&K

Reg: Implementation of Forest Rights Act in District Bandipora J&K

Respected Madam,

We, the All India Union of Forest Working Peoples (AIUWFP) are a national-level organisation working in many states of India on the Implementation of the FRA, 2006 (the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006). We recently came across this news from *Kashmir Horizon* that a one day training was organized by the J & K Forest department. Madam while this is quite welcome that the J&K Forest Deptt. is also taking interest in training the staff and officers on the issue of Forest Rights. However the issue is that the administrative officials should also hold such training program from village level, block, tehsil, sub-divisional and district level too from time to time . The implementation of the FRA district Bandipora is going on a snail's pace. We have been working with Wullar Bachav front on the implementation of this Act at the ground level. We are facing many serious difficulty to implement this Act. I was also the member of the National review committee in 2012 as a specialist member headed by Dr. N.C Saxena a former bureaucrat.

There are various issues that needs to be resolved to ensure the effective implementation of the Act in Kashmir valley.

- 1. Translation of the Act in local language Urdu and Kashmiri is very important to make the common citizens understand this Act (law).
- 2. Training of the village councils to help them in the implementation of its provisions.
- 3. SDLC to be proactive to help proper election of the members of village level FRC.
- 4. Training of the FRC members our ground level friends Shakeel-Ur-Rasool, Saimul Haq and. Mustaq Ahmad and Mohd Ashraf from Wullar Bachav Front are actively working on this issue since the past year.

We are collaborating with this organisation actively. I request u to kindly take note of this important issue.

Regds

Roma

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