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No. 9/5/2014-NE-II
Government of India / भारत सरकार
Ministry of Home Affairs / गृह मंत्रालय
NE Division / पूर्वोत्तर प्रभाग

North Block, New Delhi – 110001

नॉर्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली – 110001

Dated 16th April, 2014

To,

Shri Rahant Chakma,
Surya Global Steel Tubes Ltd.,
Survey No. 188/189, Anjar Mundra Highway,
Village-Bhuvad, Gujrat, PIN- 370130

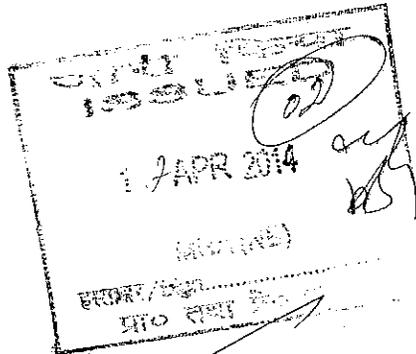
Sub: Information under Right to Information Act, 2005-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI Application dated 18.03.2014 wherein you have sought information regarding Chakma refugee issue.

2. A copy of the Minutes of the Joint High Power Committee Meetings on Chakma issue held under the chairmanship of JS (NE) on 09.01.2012 and 26.10.2012 is enclosed. No other information is available with NE Division.
3. A copy of your application has been forwarded to the concerned CPIOs of the NE State Governments/MHA, to provide necessary information.
4. If you are not satisfied with the reply, you can make an Appeal as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 to Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary (NE), Room no. 109-C, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110001, within one month from the date of receipt of this communication.

Encl. as above



Yours faithfully,

(J.P.N. Singh)
Director (NE) & CPIO
Telefax: 23092485

Copy to:-

1. Sh. Mahendra Kumar, Deputy Secretary (C) & CPIO, MHA, NDCC-II Building, New Delhi-w.r.t letter no. 26030/78/2014-IC-II dated 31st March, 2014.

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT HIGH POWER COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED VIDE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S ORDER NO.13/2/2010-NE-II .DATED 10/08/2010 FOR RESOLUTION OF CHAKMA AND HAJONG REFUGEE ISSUE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH, ON 9th JANUARY,2012, BANQUET HALL, ITANAGAR.

The first meeting of the Joint High Power Committee constituted vide Govt. of India's order No.13/2/2010-NE-11, dated 10.08.2010 for resolution of Chakma and Hajong refugee issue of Arunachal Pradesh, held its first meeting on 9th January, 2012 at Banquet Hall, Nitivihar, Itanagar, under the Chairmanship of Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary (NE) to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi. The following were present at the meeting.

- 1) Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary (NE), to Govt. of India, Chairman.
- 2) Shri S.N.Garg, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home affairs.
- 3) Shri G.N.Sinha, IFS, Addl.PCCF, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh..
- 4) Smti Indra Mallo Jain, IAS, Secretary (Political), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.
- 5) Shri R.K.Sharma, Deputy Commissioner, Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 6) Shri Pige Ligu, Deputy Commissioner, Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 7) Shri K. Riram, OSD to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.
- 8) Shri M.C.Roy, Addl.Deputy Commissioner, Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 9) Shri Tayi Taggu, Extra Asstt. Comissioner, Balijan, Arunachal Pradesh.

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- 10) Shri Hengo Basar, Extra Asstt. Commissioner, Bordumsa, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 11) Ms. B. Leibang, Circle Officer (Changlang) Arunachal Pradesh.
- 12) Shri Nabam Tamar, Vice President, All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union.
- 13) Shri Tujum Poyom, General Secretary. All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union.
- 14) Shri T.T.Tara, Legal Advisor to All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union.
- 15) Shri Tony Pertin, Legal Advisor to All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union.
- 16) Shri Adesh Chandra Hajong, Executive Member – CCRCHAP (Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakma and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh).
- 17) Shri Bimal Kanti Chakma, Executive Member- CCRCHAP (Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakma and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh).
- 18) Shri Arindam Dewan, executive Member- CCRCHAP (Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakma and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh).
- 19) Shri Santosh Chakma, General Secretary, CCRCHAP. (Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakma and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh).

At the outset Smti Indra Mallo Jain, Secretary (Political), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh welcomed everyone present and gave a brief introduction to the problem of Chakma-Hajong refugees in Arunachal Pradesh. She highlighted the issue of land encroachment, problem of permanent settlement of the refugee population and their citizenship issue. The original authorized settlement area during 1964-69 was 4240.24 hectares has now increased to almost by way of encroachment on reserved forest area and indigenous ownership of land. As per the 2010-11 special Survey Report in Lohit, Changlang, and Papumpare districts, the population of Chakma-Hajongs are 53730. The

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Special Survey Report also shows that there are 220 registered criminal cases against Chakmas and Hajongs, besides other land encroachment cases. The Special Survey Reports have also documented in detail the refugee families who settled between 1964-69 and those who settled later unauthorizedly in Arunachal Pradesh. The Secretary stated that the Government is keen to find a long-term solution to the problem.

The Chairman addressed the meeting and outlined the structure of discussion to start with representatives of the State Government, Chakma-Hajongs, and the AAPSU (All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union). First, the Dy. Commissioner Lohit District, Shri R.K. Sharma appraised the house how the Chakma and Hajong people have been migratory inhabitants who have moved from the original settlement areas, and even encroached upon reserved forest areas. Their population growth has also been manifold posing issues of intercommunity relations. He stated that Govt. programmes and schemes are being extended in Chakma-Hajong areas. School facilities under SSA and Health facilities under the NRHM are being provided. However, PDS is not being provided to them. As far as pending citizenship applications are concerned, he pointed out that the formal inquiries may have to be done again due to a long lapse of time. At the same time he expressed concern about recent activities of organized crime in Chakma-Hajong areas, besides a large number of pending criminal and forest encroachment cases in both Changlang and Lohit district.

The Chairman directed the Deputy Commissioner, Lohit to submit a detailed report on organized crime and armed struggle training reported from these areas. Thereafter, the Chairman announced that the afternoon session shall consist of an hour long face-to-face discussion between the All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union (AAPSU) and the Chakma-Hajong community representatives only. He instructed them to sit together face-to-face and discuss the issue and report to the house views of both the parties present.

The meeting then went ahead with the address of Shri Santosh Chakma, General Secretary CCRCHAP (Committee for Citizenship rights of the Chakmas and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh) who first of all thanked the Government of India, and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for accommodating the Chakma and Hajong people for the last 47 years. He stated that he hoped the meeting will result in amelioration of the problems of basic facilities being faced by the Chakma-Hajong people. He raised the following points for consideration on humanitarian grounds-enrollment in voter list, more anganwadi centres for Chakma-Hajong settlement areas particularly in Miao 15 Assembly Constituency where there are no anganwadi centres, household electricity connections in Lohit district and in Bordumsa and Kharsang, limited issue of birth certificates, type of domicile certificate for seeking Government employment, steps for flood control, particularly in the Noa Dihing river area where 13 sq. kms are flood affected, cadastral survey to deal with landlessness among Chakma-Hajong. According

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to him the population growth of Chakma-Hajong is natural growth and that there are three generations alive in Arunachal Pradesh. In 1964 approximately 14,000 people had increased to 32,196 in 1991 over a period of 27 years. He also accepted that Chakma-Hajong of Deban settlement migrated and settled on reserved forest areas. He tried to make a case for regularization of this settlement on reserved forest area similar to treatment given to Tangsa indigenous tribe of Arunachal Pradesh in 1975. Therefore he recommended de-reservation of areas like Haripun, Ratnapur, and Dumpatra. He also urged the administration to take stern action against criminals belonging to Chakma-Hajong community as per law, as criminal elements are found in every community. At the same time he claimed that the response from the police administration is not encouraging in the matter of drugs where no support is forthcoming. He however, assured of full cooperation with the administration.

The next speaker invited by the chairman was Shri T.T.Tara, Legal Advisor to the AAPSU. He stressed that the focus should be on grant of citizenship issue to Chakma-Hajongs, as the Government of Arunachal Pradesh is already providing all welfare schemes to the Chakma-Hajong refugees. He stated that a field visit is necessary to corroborate the findings of the Special Survey, and the actual ground reality, before any resolution is adopted. Further, he quoted the constitutional safeguards applicable to Arunachal under Part X of the constitution as per the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act, 1873, and the Chin Hills Regulation Act, 1896. Under the Bengal Eastern Frontier

Regulation Act, 1873, all non local natives require a 'pass' to pass through, and that no person who is not a native of the district shall acquire any interest, in a land or the produce of the land.

Further, under the Chin Hills Regulation Act, 1896, the administration is empowered to expel any person not being a native of the area if his presence is found injurious to the peace and good administration of Government. Thus, he urged for the deportation of the Chakma-Hajong refugees from the state of Arunachal Pradesh. He also demanded a special package to address employment issues to dispose Chakma and Hajong refugees from Arunachal Pradesh. Lastly, he urged for more time for preparation and intimation of at least one month before the next meeting of the committee. Mr. T. T. Tara also quoted from white paper of the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh published in 1996, the historical letter of Shri P.N. Luthra, Advisor to the Government of NEFA of 1964 addressed to Shri U. Chakma, Political Officer, Pasighat, wherein he mentions how the first batch of 490 Chakma-Hajong refugees were settled in Arunachal at the sole initiative of Shri U. Chakma, without getting prior approval of the administration.

The Chairman declared that the aim of the committee is also to create an atmosphere and situation to reduce criminality. He then proposed a core group of only officials to monitor the progress on the issue.

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The meeting then adjourned for lunch. After lunch, as per guidance of the Chairman, both Chakma-Hajong and AAPSU representatives engaged in face-to-face dialogue by themselves, for over an hour in a separate conference room.

When the meeting reassembled, Shri Tony Pertin, Legal Advisor to AAPSU, addressed the house about the conclusions of the dialogue between the AAPSU and Chakma-Hajong representatives. He stated that AAPSU is willing to support integrated and sustainable development projects in Chakma-Hajong settlement areas if they are able to identify the people who were allotted settlement during 1964-69, and they check the criminal activities in the area.

He also demanded that the AAPSU representatives should be made full fledged members of the Joint High Power Committee Since four Chakma representatives are in the committee. He demanded that, an equal number of four AAPSU representatives must also be made members of the committee by the Govt. of India. He pointed out that the meeting's agenda items show concern only for the Chakma-Hajong peoples and no concern for the indigenous Arunachalee. He emphasized that the citizenship issue is the priority and that we cannot delve into other subjects without resolving it first. From a human rights perspective, Shri Tony Pertin drew attention to the patriotic nature of Arunachal Pradesh in adoption of the 3 language formula, and compulsory learning of the national anthem.

He pointed out how the Government must realize that like the other side of the coin, the Chakma-Hajong refugee issue can also be interpreted as violation of the human rights of the indigenous Arunachalees who are citizens of India. He demonstrated the threat to the local indigenous tribes of Arunachal Pradesh by the growing numbers of the Chakma-Hajong. The indigenous Singpho Tribe who number only 5000 as per the 2001 census are the smallest tribe in Arunachal Pradesh, and the Chakma-Hajong refugees are concentrated in exactly the Singpho area, outnumbering and reducing them to a minority in Diyun and Bordumsa areas of Changlang district.

Similarly, the Khampti tribes also face the threat of being swamped and dominated by these settlers and their growing numbers.

However, he added that we can still think of embracing the Chakma-Hajong refugees settled between 1964-69 share the national burden. This requires field verification. Therefore, time can be given to the Chakma representatives to verify by themselves as to the actual figure of those Chakma-Hajong refugee families settled in Arunachal between 1964-1969. On this positive note, the AAPSU also cautioned the Chakma-Hajong representatives not to confront, but to cooperate with the state to resolve the vexed issue.

The chairman suggested that it should be a joint field verification to that both sides are satisfied of its veracity. This was agreed to.

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The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chairman, all members of the committee, special invitees, and all department staff.

Sd/-
(SHAMBHU SINGH)
Joint Secretary (NE-II)-Cum-Chairman,
of the Joint Higher Power Committee,
Government of India,
Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi,
Fax No.

Memo No. Pol-23/2002/Vol-II

Dated Itanagar, the

2012.

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary to the Governor, of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for information.
2. The PPS to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for information.
3. The PS to Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar for information.
4. All Committee Members and Special Invitees.


(INDRA MALLO-JAIN)
Secretary (Political)
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh,
Itanagar.

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**MINUTES OF THE 2ND JOINT HIGH POWER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
26/10/2012 AT BANQUET HALL, ITANAGAR AT 1100 HRS UNDER THE
CHAIRMANSHIP OF SRI SHAMBHU SINGH, JOINT SECRETARY, N.E.-II, MHA,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.**

The 2nd Meeting of the Joint High Power Committee was held under the Chairmanship of Sri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary, N.E. -II, MHA, Government of India to discuss the issue relating to Chakma-Hajong refugee issue. The meeting was attended by the representatives from the State Government, Deputy Commissioner of affected Districts viz. Tirap, Changlang, Lohit and Papum Pare, official representative from Department of Forest, representatives from All Arunachal Pradesh Student Union (AAPSU) and representatives from the Chakma and Hajong.

Smt. Indra Mallo Jain, Secretary (Political) while welcoming the members to the meeting apprised the problem relating to granting of citizenship right to the Chakma and Hajong and their rehabilitation issue. She also informed that as per the decision taken in the first Joint High Power Committee meeting held on 9th January' 2012 the joint verification exercise is yet to be carried out in the affected districts.

Sri Shambhu Singh, Chairman Joint High Power Committee, while addressing the house said that the carrying out of survey is not the core issue but the real issue is to arrive at final consensus so as to avert any further complicacies. He also gave assurance to the representative of AAPSU with regard to Government of India's commitment to take up matter on priority basis. He invited the representatives to take part in the deliberation for fruitful discussion.

The representatives from the Chakma-Hajong Committee for Citizenship while addressing the house read out the population census as per the survey conducted by them and also apprised their recommendation to the Joint High Power Committee which includes special package to Chakma-Hajong, issue relating to registration and rehabilitation, provision for certain percentage in Government job in the State.

Sri T. T. Tara, Legal Adviser (AAPSU) while taking part in the deliberation informed that the issue cannot be resolved simply by granting citizenship to the Chakma-Hajong refugees to which the Apex student body never objected to and reiterated their demand that they are against granting the APST status to them and refused to accept the survey report submitted by the Chakma-Hajong which shows lot of discrepancies and variation of actual figure. As per the

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decision of first Joint High Power Committee the survey was to be carried out jointly. Whereas it has been independently done by the Chakma-Hajong and Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh wherein the AAPSU representative have not participated. He requested for carrying out Joint verification survey of the same. He also impressed upon that the field verification work i.e. head counting of Chakma-Hajong refugees in the affected District should be carried out on time bound basis strictly adhering to the situation of 1964-69 i.e., head counting would be applicable to only those who migrated in between 1964-69 and were allotted blocks for their temporary settlement. He called upon the Chairman to verify the status enjoyed by these refugees in other state of North east like Mizoram, Tripura and Assam so as to work out modalities for their rehabilitation before carrying out the verification survey work.

Representatives from other government department also participated in the deliberation and raised certain important issues like encroachment of reserved forest area and illegal occupation of private properties, Govt. Land. Sri Hengo Basar, Liaison Officer for Chakma and Hajong issue also apprised the problem created by the refugees obstructing the development work in these districts. The Deputy Commissioner Changlang while briefing the situation of the District informed that the present relation between the Arunachalee Tribes and the refugees is very hostile as the Chakma and Hajong refugees often fail to comply with the Orders of the District Administration.

Sri Shambhu Singh, Chairman Joint High Power Committee, while responding to the question raised by Sri T.T. Tara, Legal Adviser (AAPSU) informed that there is no ~~any~~ package under implementation for the Chakma and Hajong in these three States. He also informed that since there is acute shortage of land it is practically not viable to rehabilitate these refugee population in places like Dhubri in Assam or any other places. He made it clear that the Ministry of Home Affairs cannot be involved in carrying out house to house survey due to shortage of time as well as manpower. He suggested that the same should be done involving the representative from AAPSU, District Administration representing the State Government and the representatives from Chakma and Hajong and to work out the modus operandi. He assured that the financial expenses towards the survey work would be borne by the Government of India and would be provided directly to the Secretary (Political), Government of Arunachal Pradesh. While responding to the status-quo issue he assured that while conducting the survey 1964-69 situation

will be strictly adhered to. In this regard, he suggested for constitution of Core Committee comprising the representative from both the side involving the Government of Arunachal Pradesh. He also took serious note of the issue raised by the Forest Department regarding encroachment and destruction of Forest Land and asked the Chakma and Hajong representative to abstain from such illegal activities.

After threadbare discussion on the issue and taking note of the sentiment expressed by both the parties following resolution was adopted by the house:

1. A State Level Core Committee be constituted chaired by the Secretary (Political), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh comprising representative from AAPSU, Chakma-Hajong (three members each) alongwith the District Administration of the affected Districts as the representative of State Government. The list of representatives from each party be submitted for issue of notification on 29/10/2012 (Monday).
2. The Core Committee will hold its first sitting on 03/11/2012 at 1100 hrs in the office chamber of the Secretary (Political), Govt. of A.P. Itanagar to discuss and work out the modus operandi for carrying out the joint verification survey specifically to identify the refugees migrated between 1964-69 and to arrive at actual figure.
3. The deadline for completion of joint verification to be carried out by the Core Committee is fixed on 28th February' 2012 as agreed upon by all the members.

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The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Smt. Indra Mallo Jain, IAS, Secretary (Political), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.

Sd/- Sri Shambhu Singh, IAS
Joint Secretary, NE-II
Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI
New Delhi

Copy to:

All concerned for information.

(Indra Mallo Jain), IAS
Secretary (Political)
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar

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RTI REQUEST DETAILS

Registration No. :	MHOME/R/2014/80251	Date of Receipt :	18/03/2014
Type of Receipt :	Electronically Transferred from Other Public Authority	Language of Request :	English
Name :	Rahant Chakma	Gender :	Male
Address :	surya global steel tubes ltd, survey no.188/189, Anjar mundra highway , vill- Bhuvad, Pin:370130		
State :	Gujarat	Country :	India
Phone No. :	Details not provided	Mobile No. :	+91-9537996271
Email :	rahan.ind@gmail.com		
Status(Rural/Urban) :	Rural	Education Status :	
Letter No. :	Details not provided	Letter Date :	Details not provided
Is Requester Below Poverty Line ? :	No	Citizenship Status :	Indian
Amount Paid :	0	Mode of Payment :	Payment Gateway
Mode(s) of information Supply :	Hard Copy		
Does it concern the life or Liberty of a Person ? :	Details not provided.	Request Pertains to :	MAHENDRA KUMAR, DS(CITIZENSHIP)

1. Why central and Arunachal Pradesh govt. is not giving citizenship for our chakma caste
2. Why Arunachal Pradesh govt. ban all facilities to chakma caste like Ration ,electricity and govt. Employment
3. Why the AAPSU & PPA party against for citizenship of the chakma caste
4. Wheather Assam govt. has any record relating to chakma when migrated from Assam to Arunachal
5. Why the Guwahati High court has declared Arunachal chakma as foreigners
6. In Which year chakma peoples got citizenship in Tripura ,Mizoram ,Assam, Meghalaya and West Bengal
7. What is the present chakma population in Arunachal

Information Sought

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SA MAHENDRA KUMAR

Pradesh govt. Record

8. chakmas living in Tripura, Meghalaya, Assam, West Bengal and Mizoram provided citizenship but why central govt. and state govt. not providing citizenship to Arunachal Pradesh chakma

9. Why the supreme court and the central govt. is not taking decision about citizenship for the chakma

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