



सत्यमेव जयते

# **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES**

**A Constitutional Body set up under Article 338A of Constitution  
of India to investigate & monitor all matters relating  
to safeguards provided to the Scheduled Tribes**

**"B" Wing, 6th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan,  
Khan Market, New Delhi-110003**

**Website : [www.ncst.nic.in](http://www.ncst.nic.in)**

**Toll Free No. : 1800 117777, Fax : 011-24604689**

# NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

**'B' WING, 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, LOK NAYAK BHAWAN,  
NEW DELHI-110003**

- 1.1 The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been set up with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2004 by amending Article 338 and by inserting a new Article 338A in the Constitution through the Constitution (89<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Act, 2003 which, inter-alia, enjoins upon the Commission to oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to Scheduled Tribes under Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any other order of the Govt. and to evaluate the working of such safeguards. The Commission comprises a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and three full time (including one lady) Members.

## ***Composition of the present Commission***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date of Assumption of Charge</b>
Shri Harsh Chouhan	Chairperson	25.02.2021
VacantVice	Chairperson	-
Shri Ananta Nayak	Member	25.02.2021
Vacant	Member	-
Vacant	Member	-

- 1.2 The term of office of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members is three years from the date of assumption of charge. The Chairperson has been given the rank of Union Cabinet Minister, the Vice-Chairperson have the rank of a Minister of State and other Members have the rank of a Secretary to the Government of India.

## ***Duties and Functions of the Commission:***

- 2.1 Constitution of India under Clause (5) of Article 338A has assigned the following duties and functions to the Commission:-

- (a) To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;
- (b) To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Tribes;
- (c) To participate and advice in the planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State;
- (d) To present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards.
- (e) To make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes, and
- (f) To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes as the President may, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, by rule specify.

2.2 The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been assigned certain additional functions vide the Ministry of Tribal Affairs Notification dated 23.8.2005 in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (f) of Clause (5) of Article 338A, namely :

- (i) Measures that need to be taken over conferring ownership rights in respect of minor forest produce to STs living in forest areas.
- (ii) Measures to be taken to safeguard the rights of the tribal communities over mineral resources, water resources etc. as laid down by law.

- (iii) Measures to be taken for the development of Tribal to plug loopholes and to work more viable livelihood strategies.
- (iv) Measures to be taken to improve the efficacy of relief and rehabilitation measures for tribal groups displaced by development projects.
- (v) Measures to be taken to prevent alienation of tribal people from land and to effectively rehabilitate such people in whose case alienation has already taken place.
- (vi) Measures to be taken to elicit maximum cooperation and involvement of tribal communities for protecting forests and undertaking social afforestation.
- (vii) Measures to be taken to ensure full implementation of the provision of Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- (viii) Measures to be taken to reduce and ultimately eliminate the practice of shifting cultivation by tribal that lead to their continuous disempowerment and degradation of land and the environment.

### ***Powers of the Commission:***

3. While investigating the matters referred to in sub-clause (a) or inquiring into any complaint referred to in sub-clause (b) of clause 5, the Commission have all the powers of a Civil Court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters, namely:-
  - a) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
  - b) Requiring the discovery and production of any document;
  - c) Receiving evidence on affidavits;
  - d) Requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office;
  - e) Issuing summons/communications for the examination of witnesses and documents;
  - f) Any other matters which the President may by rule determine.

## ***Consultation by the Union and State Government with the Commission:***

4. In accordance with clause (9) of Article 338A of the Constitution, the Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Tribes.

## ***Monitoring :***

5. The Commission while investigating matters relating to the safeguards provided under the Constitution monitors the implementation and working of safeguards which include:
  - (a) Acting upon Article 23 of the Constitution which prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour etc; in respect of STs.
  - (b) Prohibition of child labour under Article 24; in respect of STs.
  - (c) Educational safeguards under Article 15 (4) for reservation of seats for STs in educational institutions.
  - (d) Economic safeguards under Article 244 and working of Fifth and Sixth Schedules and release of grants for raising the level of administration in tribal areas.
  - (e) Safeguarding the distinct language, script or culture of STs under Article 29(i).
  - (f) Working of service safeguards provided under Articles 16 (4), 16 (4) (a), 16 (4) (B) and 335 providing for adequate representation of Scheduled Tribes in appointments or posts.
  - (g) Enforcement of various laws such as:
    - (i) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
    - (ii) Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes).
    - (iii) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes).
    - (iv) State Acts and Regulations concerning alienation and restoration of land belonging to Scheduled Tribes.

- (v) Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes)
- (vi) The Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- (vii) Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (in respect of Scheduled Tribes)

## ***Annual Reports of the Commission***

- 6.1 Clause 5(d) of Article 338A mandates the Commission “to present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards” and Clause 5(e) provides “to make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes.”
- 6.2 Clause 6 of Article 338A provides that, “the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament along with a Memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.
- 6.3 Clause 7 of Article 338A provides that, “Where any such report or any part thereof relates to any matter with which any State Government is concerned, a copy of such report shall be forwarded to the Governor of the State who shall cause it to be laid before the Legislature of the State along with a Memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the State and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

## ***Filing of Grievance***

- 7. Any aggrieved Scheduled Tribe person may approach the Head Quarter or Regional Office of NCST through post or email (chairperson@ncst.nic.in, secy@ncst.nic.in) or file complaint online at <https://ncstgrams.gov.in> .

# NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

6th Floor, 'B' Wing, Loknayak Bhawan,  
Khan Market, New Delhi-110003

**Information and Facilitation**  
**Centre No. : 1800117777 (Toll Free)**

S. No.	Name	Designation	Room No.	Office Tel. No.	Office Fax No.
1.	Sh.Harsh Chouhan	Chairperson	601	24635721	24624628
2.	Sh.Ananta Nayak	Member	604	24646954	
3.	Smt.Alka Tiwari	Secretary	602	24635625	24624190
4.	Smt. C. Jenny Raj	PSO to Secretary	622	24635625	24624190
5.	Sh. Konthang Touthang	Joint Secretary	610	24603669	24654826
6.	Sh.Raj Kumar Badlia	PS to Joint Secretary	612	24603669	
7.	Dr. Lalit Latta	Director	606	24615012	
8.	Sh.R.K. Arora	Dy. Secy.	608	24620638	
9.	Sh. M.L. Meena	Under Secretary	611-A	24657271	
10.	Sh. S.P. Meena	Assistant Director (RU-II & Coord Cell)	615	24657272	
11.	Sh. R.K. Dubey	Assistant Director (Admn. & RU-III)	607	24601346	
12.	Sh.Ram Janam Chaudhary	A.D. (OL)	5th Floor	24641640	
13.	Sh. R.S. Mishra	Sr. Inv. (RU- I)	5th Floor	24641640	
14.	Sh. Y K Bansal	Research Officer (RU-IV)	5th Floor	24641640	

# NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

## (Location and jurisdiction of Regional Offices)

S. No.	Location & Address of Office	Name & Designation of the Officer	Jurisdiction of the Regional Office
1.	Room No.309, NirmanSadan, CGO Complex, 52-A, Arera Hills, <b>Bhopal-462011</b>	<b>Ms Deepika Khanna</b> Research Officer Ph: 0755 2576530 0755 2578272(F) Email: ro-bhopal@ncst.nic.in	M.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, and Union Territories of Dadra& Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep
2.	N-1/297, IRC Village, <b>Bhubaneshwar-751015</b>	<b>Shri V Ashok Vardhan</b> Assistant Director Ph:0674 2551616, 0674 2551818 (F) Email: ro-bbsr@ncst.nic.in	Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and Pondicherry
3.	Room No. 101 & 102, first floor, KendriyaSadan, Sector-10, Vidhyadhar Nagar, <b>Jaipur-302023</b>	<b>Dr Lalit Latta,</b> Director (Additional Charge) Ph:0141 2236462, 0141 2235488(F) Email: ro-jaipur@ncst.nic.in	Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, NCT of Delhi and Union Territories of Chandigarh and Daman & Diu.
4.	EAC Colony, Plot No 3/16, First floor Behind District Courts,Near Purnima School, <b>Raipur-492001</b>	<b>Shri Pradeep Kumar Das</b> Research Officer, Ph:0771 2443334 0771 2443335 (F), Email:ro-raipur@ncst.nic.in	Chhattisgarh
5.	14, New A.G. Co-operative Colony, Kadru, <b>Ranchi-834002</b>	<b>Smt Minakshi Sharma</b> Assistant Director Ph:0651 2341677, 0651 2340368(F), Email:ro-ranchi@ncst.nic.in	Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh
6.	Rabekka Villa, Temple Road, Lower Lachumiere, <b>Shillong-793001</b>	<b>Shri Sheo Prasad Meena</b> Assistant Director (Additional Charge), Ph:0364 2504202 0364 2221362(F) Email: ro-shilong@ncst.nic.in	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura