

**DR. N. C. SAXENA, COMMISSIONER AND
HARSH MANDER, SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME COURT
IN THE CASE: PUCL v. UOI & Ors. WRIT PETITION (Civil) No. 196 of 2001**

December 3rd, 2008.

AAY/604/Orissa.

Shri. Ajit Kumar Tripathy
Chief Secretary
Government of Orissa
Orissa Secretariat
Bhuvaneshwar
Orissa.

Sub: Regarding the issuance of of Antodaya cards to PTG households in Orissa.

Dear Shri. Tripathy,

As you are aware, in our capacity as Commissioners of the Supreme Court in CWP 196/2001, PUCL v. UOI and others, we monitor the implementation of the food and employment related schemes in the country which fall under the purview of the case including the ICDS, MDMS, NREGA, NOAPS, TPDS, NMBS /JSY and NFBS.

It has come to our notice by our Advisor in Orissa that almost 467 PTG households in Mayurbhanj and Baleswar districts of Orissa have not been provided AAY cards. We would like to bring it in your notice that this is a clear violation of the Supreme Court which has stated in its order dated 2nd May 2003 that the following groups of persons would be entitled to AAY cards:

- 1) Aged, infirm, disabled, destitute men and women, pregnant and lactating women, destitute women;
- 2) widows and other single women with no regular support;
- 3) old persons (aged 60 or above) with no regular support and no assured means of subsistence;
- 4) households with a disabled adult and assured means of subsistence;
- 5) households where due to old age, lack of physical or mental fitness, social customs, need to care for a disabled, or other reasons, no adult member is available to engage in gainful employment outside the house;
- 6) primitive tribes.”

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Further, our Adviser had brought the concern to the notice of Commissioner cum Secretary, Food Supplies and Consumer welfare department. The Commissioner had also assured him that the department will take action on this and will issue the AAY cards to the beneficiaries. However, no step has been undertaken by the concerned department yet.

We are enclosing the list of the villages with the number of PTG households who have denied the AAY cards.

Therefore, we urge you please take necessary steps to issue AAY cards to the PTG households in these areas without any further delay and also undertake steps to identify the PTGs in the State who have not been given AAY cards so far. Please also let us know why there has been delay in issuing the AAY cards to these people even after our Advisor had brought it in the notice of department and send us the action taken report on the issuance of the AAY cards to these people.

We would also like to request you please also send us the information on the total number of PTGs in the State and how many of them have been covered under AAY.

Our Advisor in orissa, Mr. Raj Kishore Misra (Mobile : 094370-47270 ; email id: rajkishormishra@gmail.com) would be happy to assist you for any information you may need on this.

With regards,

Dr. N.C. Saxena

Harsh Mander

CC: Mr. Raj Kishor, Advisor to the Commissioners to the Supreme Court, Orissa.