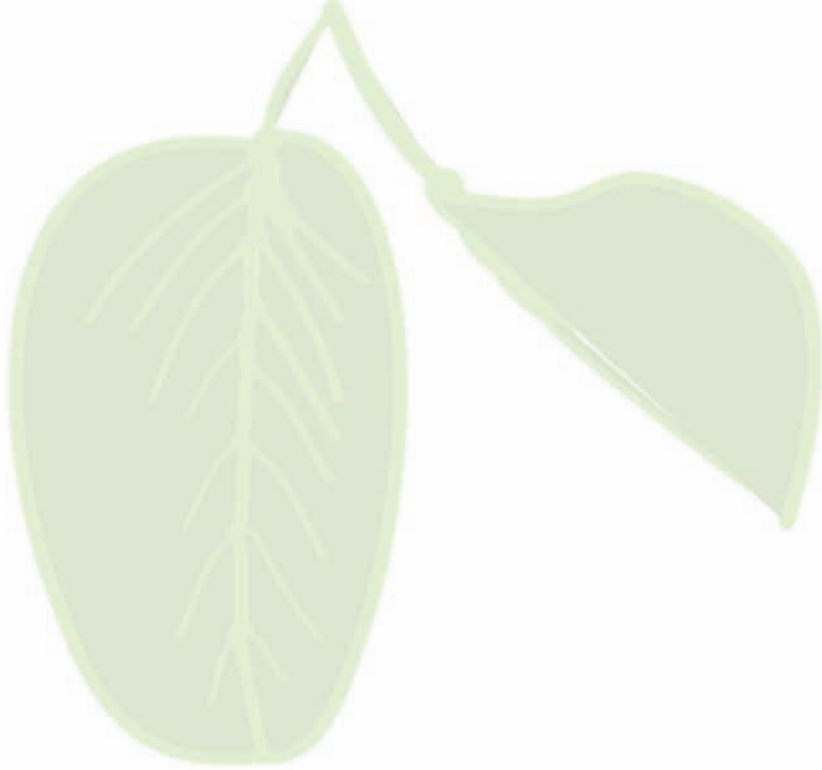




Community Resource Persons: Hope for the Landless Poor

A 'How-to' Manual for Implementers and Practitioners



Rural Development Institute (RDI) along with Government of Odisha has developed a cadre of Community Resource Persons (CRPs), who are village youths employed to provide additional capacity to Revenue Department in securing land for the poorest. These CRPs are trained to follow a step-wise land allocation process in a time bound manner that helps the Revenue Department to provide land title to households on Government land.

This manual serves as a ready reckoner for Government officials, NGOs, donors, practitioners and others engaged in land allocation programmes. The manual explains the step-by-step process adopted for the identification of homesteadless and landless families. Besides, it also discusses the roles and responsibilities of the CRPs, including their selection and orientation process.



Community Resource Persons: Hope for the Landless Poor

A 'How-to' Manual for Implementers and Practitioners



**Text**

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Photo

Rural Development Institute

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“Experiences worldwide have evidenced that secured land rights lead to definite positive impacts on improved family nutrition (including child nutrition). Secured access and control over land often leads to increased household spending on children’s education, basic health care leading to improved status and empowerment within the community. On a macro level, secured land rights contribute towards increased production and economic growth of the country, leading to improved social stability within the community.”



Prof. Roy Prosterman
Founder, Rural Development Institute



Raj Kumar Sharma, I.A.S.
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FOREWORD

The concept of providing additional capacity to the Revenue Department to improve land allocation by selecting unemployed youth, and giving them the productive working title of “Community Resource Persons (CRPs)” is an innovative initiative developed by Rural Development Institute (RDI) jointly with the Revenue Department. A pilot was implemented in three districts that is currently being scaled up in the project villages of Odisha Tribal Livelihoods and Empowerment Programme (OTELP).

Being a local youth who is jointly selected by the community and the local Revenue Inspector, the CRP is uniquely positioned to expedite land allocation. The model holds promise as a useful design also to provide and enhance people’s access to other government services and entitlements.

This manual will be a very useful tool for government officials, especially revenue officials on constructive use of village youth for land allocation.

I am sure this model will be helpful to the field officials and the CRPs in addressing the issues concerning landlessness.

(R. K. Sharma)

Santosh Sarangi, IAS

Commissioner-cum-Secretary
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FOREWORD

“Ensuring tenurial rights, especially in the tribal and backward pockets of Odisha, has been the goal of the Government for a long time. Securing tenurial rights is not merely helpful as a legal instrument but also goes a long way in providing a sense of social security and also the flexibility to use land as an instrument of capital mobility.

Therefore, the initiative of Rural Development Institute (RDI) to engage Community Resource Persons to identify, survey and file applications through a participatory process and in accordance with the existing laws is being up scaled in 1042 villages where OTELP is working.

I take this opportunity to compliment the RDI personnel as well as OTELP's facilitating NGOs and officials who have made it successful in remote tribal pockets of Odisha.

This manual will definitely help in bringing clarity on the processes followed and implementation mechanism of the CRP model.”

(Santosh Sarangi)

PREFACE

A vast majority of rural India confronts the challenge of inadequate or almost non-existent access to land. Poverty, therefore has its roots in the absence of access to and secure rights over land that is imperative for food security. Though State Governments have introduced a number of progressive land allocation programmes, the overworked and inadequately staffed revenue administration has been mostly responsible for the limited impact of such schemes and programmes. This has led to concerns of the landless poor not being addressed adequately enough.

The **Rural Development Institute (RDI)** worked with revenue officials and experts to pilot a model of using a special cadre of Community Resource Persons to overcome challenges of land allocation. The pilot was initiated in 2010 in 36 villages in Ganjam, Gajapati and Jagatsinghpur districts where local youth were hired from within the village and trained to perform discreet tasks under the supervision of revenue officers.

The genesis of the CRP model goes back to an assessment by RDI on the implementation of the Vasundhara programme, a homestead land allocation programme of Government of Odisha that identified staff capacity as a major stumbling block in the proper implementation of the homestead plot programme¹. Given its uncomplicated and cost-effective features, it met with immense success in its pilot phase and was welcomed by revenue officials, prompting the Government of Odisha to consider implementation at scale.

The journey from conception to refinement in the CRP model had its share of trials and tribulations. The pilot started with the presumption that it would face stern resistance from field level Revenue officials but was pleasantly surprised by their response. The revenue officials, especially the Revenue Inspectors were in fact the first ones to welcome this model of working with the community, in a more transparent and consultative fashion.

The CRP model owes its success to a number of individuals and agencies. Thanks are due to residents of the pilot villages, the first batch of CRPs, revenue officials, NGOs and experts. We warmly acknowledge the support of all the district administrations where RDI worked or is currently working. Our special thanks to the Revenue Administration of Ganjam district, but for their strong support, the programme could not have made an impact. We would also like to thank the Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme (OTELP) to have reposed faith in the ability of CRPs to improve the land rights situation in their project villages. We are indebted to the State Government, especially the Revenue Department and SC & ST Development Department for their unstinted support and constant cooperation.

It would be only apt to dedicate this manual to all those CRPs who dared and volunteered to bring change while working in difficult circumstances with limited capacity and resources.



Gregory Rake

Country Director

Rural Development Institute

¹ The CRP model had its roots in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh, where an inventive Revenue Officer created a programme in which village youth helped families to register sadabainami (plain paper) transactions on a mass scale. RDI learnt, made necessary innovations and experimented it in Odisha.



BACKGROUND

Land is the most critical resource to raise the standard of living of millions and ensure a conflict-free society. Therefore, Government's undiluted attention and investment on provisioning land to the landless cannot be overemphasised.

Poverty, social conflict and economic growth constraints in India continue to be tied to land rights. Despite rapid economic growth, India still has the world's largest concentration of people living in poverty and the largest number of landless people in the world. The two are closely related as poverty is intrinsically tied to landlessness. According to Government of India data, rural landlessness is the best predictor of poverty and land rights issues are at the root of serious conflict in the country. Additionally, land related Naxal movement is India's single biggest internal security challenge².

Given the socio-cultural and economic context, especially in India's rural hinterland, land is much more than just a physical asset. It is linked to human dignity and self-esteem. Families without land rights experience a great deal of insecurity, and abject poverty compounds the problem, leading to their being forced to move out of the villages in search of jobs and income. As a result of this forced migration, a landless family experiences strained and consistently shrinking emotional links with its native village. Due protection of land rights will, therefore, ensure that more people stay tied to their roots, in this case the village, and resultantly, not put pressure on cities that are already bursting under their own weight.



The land rights agenda, therefore, needs to primarily focus on providing land to the landless and homesteadless, liberalising tenancy restrictions and improving women's access to land. In the recent past, national and state governments have introduced land allocation programmes that have been appropriate and effective, though they had to contend with a number of

² Tim Hanstad, 'Towards Secure Land Rights for India's Poor', Hans India Newspaper, Hyderabad, 7th August 2011

limitations. Their success is worth replicating and provides lessons that can help address land reforms challenges. The recent 'micro-plot' or 'homestead plot' programmes of states like Karnataka, West Bengal and Odisha offer feasible solutions for providing land to nearly 17 million rural landless families. Research shows that these house-and-garden plots of one-tenth of an acre can provide significant benefits to landless families by way of sufficient space to grow food, build a house, rear livestock and develop other livelihood options.

Young people, many unemployed, can be tapped in the land reforms movement. By selecting candidates and training them, effort can be made to develop stronger linkages and also resolve long standing land issues. Not only will this give confidence to the locals but also provide employable opportunities to the youth and more importantly strengthen the efforts of an already overburdened Revenue Department. The trained youth can work with the revenue officials and together they can aim to create a more responsive

and result-oriented land allocation and settlement system. Concentrated efforts along these lines would enable another 40 million poor families in India, apart from the 17 million who do not have land, to have secure titles. There are a number of examples in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha where local youth have been identified and trained to work with poor families and provide additional capacity to the Revenue Department officials.

With enhanced access to information on rights and entitlements, laws and policies, people are getting ready for change. There has been a perceptible increase in demand for services and growing realisation that self-help must go beyond thrift and credit. The right to information and the unprecedented upsurge against corruption have made two things clear: it is possible to bring change if the issue is critical; and that one cannot wait for a revolution to bring about change, but must seek to bring about small changes in everyday life.



"One of the biggest strengths of India as an emerging superpower in the new millennium is the high percentage of youth in the population as compared to countries like China. These young people can play a huge role in shaping their country's destiny."

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam
Former President of India



IMPLEMENTING THE CRP MODEL

With mounting work pressure on field level revenue officials, it is time the Government considers investing in unemployed local youth who can be trained as CRPs for land settlement at scale. Land is too serious an issue to be deferred to another day.

The Government of Odisha, based on an enumeration of homesteadlessness undertaken in 2003-04, introduced a homestead plot allocation programme, called the Vasundhara scheme, in 2005-06 to provide land to a quarter of a million homesteadless households in the state. Under the scheme, each homesteadless household was to be allocated four decimals (later increased to 10 decimals) of homestead plot - a scheme that very creatively used provisions of the land settlement and encroachment acts, i.e., OGLS and OPLE³. Though Government records indicated that by 2008, about 92% households had received *pattas*, various studies and district revenue reports revealed that there were possession related challenges to the scheme such as families not obtaining physical possession of the land listed as having been allocated. The scheme also faced implementation challenges due to acute shortage of field level revenue staff, making it almost impossible for them to address problems which the programme was designed to tackle.

Assessment of Vasundhara Scheme

With the aim of improving implementation of Vasundhara, RDI undertook an assessment in 88 villages across 10 districts (Scheduled and Non-scheduled areas) in 2009-10⁴. The assessment was carried out with support from local NGOs, district administrations and OTELP.



³ Odisha Government Land Settlement Act, 1962, Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act, 1972.

⁴ The districts are; Balasore, Kendrapada, Puri, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Kondhamal, Koraput, Sambalpur, Ganjam and Jagatsinghpur.

Key findings of the assessment are summarised below:

- People did not receive *patta* to their current house sites
- Allotted house sites were not identified or demarcated
- Households were unwilling to relocate to allotted sites
- Allotted land was unfit for habitation
- Households were not included in Vasundhara scheme
- The scheme was operationalised without clear guidelines and assessment of staff capacities

Therefore, due to shortage of staff and paucity of time, Revenue Inspectors could not conduct household surveys and field verifications to ascertain the exact nature and extent of land possession, leading to their reliance on records that were old and outdated, eventually resulting in ineffective implementation.

Identifying solutions to capacity issues

In line with RDI's 'Theory of Change'⁵, identification of problems through field assessment must be followed by designing solutions - in this case solving capacity constraints within the Revenue Department. This can be done by creating provisions for additional capacity to field level revenue officials to enable better enumeration, identification and settlement of homestead plots in favour of eligible claimants. In order to create additional capacity, it was, therefore, important to identify and select people who would provide this additional capacity and then to train and incentivise them accordingly.

Local youth to be the ideal resource

Since the main task was to identify homesteadless and landless families, one obvious option was to enlist the help of local youth, preferably from the same village, to support field level revenue functionaries.

From wasted youth to messiah

Twenty two year old Bali Sabar

was unemployed till recently. Today, he is looked upon as a saviour having helped 11 homesteadless families of Kharibandha hamlet in Kurimpur village of Khallikote Tahasil in Ganjam district of Odisha get homestead patta under the Vasundhara scheme. He is regarded as a debaduta (God's emissary) since he has helped people become proud owners of homestead plots- a remote pipe dream a year ago.



Piloting the CRP model

The objective of the pilot programme was to explore ways of supplementing the Revenue Department's capacity by employing local youth trained to perform discreet tasks under the supervision of Revenue officers. The Community Resource Persons (CRP) model, was piloted by RDI in 2010 in 36 villages in the three districts of Ganjam, Gajapati and Jagatsinghpur.

Pilot guidelines

- *Focus on households possessing government land without patta*
- *Provide households with patta for their current house sites*
- *Provide additional capacity to local revenue officials through local youths trained as CRPs*
- *Select CRPs through a consultative and transparent process with support from the community and the local Revenue Inspector*
- *Develop a robust allocation model that is tested in the pilot villages and subsequently scaled up by the Government*

⁵ RDI's 'Theory of Change' identifies gaps and challenges in existing laws and policies through field study and research that leads to design and development of pro-poor land tenure reforms. RDI advocates for policy change on land reforms, provides technical support to governments and NGOs on programme design and pilot implementation, shares reform practices and impacts with various stakeholders while advocating for replication and global change.

“RDI started piloting the CRP model in Ganjam in 2010. Being a locally driven and cost-effective model the district revenue administration believed that it would yield results. The initial success and acceptance of the model shows that it can be scaled up.”



V. Kartikeya Pandian, IAS

Ex-Collector & District Magistrate, Ganjam

CRPs being local youth, have a better understanding of the community dynamics. They understood the sentiments and attitudes of the villagers, especially the poor and landless. This made it easier for them to gather information on homesteadless and landless households and also support efforts of revenue officials.

An allocation plan was developed in consultation with revenue officials and experts where a specific timeline was attached to each step in the allocation process making it an entirely time-bound exercise. The step-wise allocation plan had both technical and non-technical steps. The CRPs contributed in both non-

Nothing is free and nothing is for a fee

Depending on their education and ability, each CRP, on an average, gets an honorarium of about ₹2000 a month. Within a span of three months, 27 CRPs succeeded in identifying 1270 households in the 36 pilot villages which were eligible to get homestead *patta*. The cost per identification was about ₹127 and the time taken for the same was two days.

Though the CRPs get a modest honorarium, the focus is more towards making a contribution to village development than individual gain. The effort, therefore, is to balance monetary and non-monetary incentives so that ‘nothing is free and nothing is for a fee’.

technical and technical ways to reduce the Revenue Inspector’s workload.

The non-technical steps included identification of homesteadless households, preparation of applications for those households, and filling up of G’ forms that a literate local youth could easily undertake. Thus the CRPs reduced the work burden of the Revenue Inspectors making the allocation process faster and smoother. The CRPs were also trained to play a supportive role in the technical steps such as the field verification process, help prepare sketch map and assist in holding camp courts.

Valuable and timely contribution are made by CRPs to the overall work charter of the Revenue Inspectors. Also, it was seen that gaps that had earlier been identified- incorrect information on exact number of homesteadless households during the enumeration in 2003-04 that led to a substantial number of households not getting covered under the Vasundhara scheme could now be avoided.

“My first meeting with RDI on piloting CRPs was not encouraging. I was a bit sceptical. But somewhere, I told myself why not try this model once. When the pilot was rolled out, we could see how helpful



the CRPs were at each step of the land settlement process. With acute shortage of field level revenue officials, the CRPs act as village level revenue officials and being local literate youth, they provide valuable support to the community and revenue officials in expediting land settlement.”

Binaya Kumar Dash, OAS
Tahasildar, Khallikote, Ganjam

⁶ **Form G** is the first enquiry report for unauthorised possession of government land that the Revenue Inspector submits to the Tahasildar.

Scaling up the CRP model

With growing acceptance of the model, RDI explored collaboration with OTELP for scale-up in the seven project districts where OTELP was operational⁷. OTELP was especially interested in this collaboration because land settlement is crucial in Schedule-V areas⁸, which experience high percentage of landlessness. Moreover, OTELP had the answer to the two most critical challenges for scale-up of the CRP model, namely funds to employ CRPs and capacity to supervise them.

Since the land allocation process in Odisha is through regularisation and distribution of government land, there is ample opportunity for the CRPs to support Government land allocation and regularisation efforts that could easily form part of any externally aided poverty reduction programme such as OTELP.

"In 2010, RDI presented the CRP model that they piloted in selected districts of Odisha. Identifying local youth to support revenue officials in addressing land allocation issues held promise. Besides, it was cost effective and followed a step-wise process with specific timelines attached for closing cases."



In early 2011, OTELP collaborated with RDI to address landlessness in 1042 project villages. Looking at the success of the model, the State Government decided to introduce land allocation as an entry-point programme in the OTELP plus villages. We are confident that using local unemployed youth as CRPs, will help us address landlessness in the project villages."

Susanta Nanda, IFS
Programme Director, OTELP

"Prior to mid 2011, I knew nothing about CRPs, though I had heard that local youth were helping Revenue Inspectors to expedite land allocation. After getting involved in their work in Gumma Tahasil, I could see how helpful the CRPs had been in land allocation, especially in a remote and tribal district like Gajapati. This is a welcome initiative by OTELP and RDI."



Sukant Kumar Patnaik, OAS
Tahasildar Gumma, Gajapati

Although the step-wise allocation plan followed by CRPs in the pilot phase focused on homestead land, during scaling-up phase, CRPs used the same approach to identify agricultural landlessness. Following land allocation in the pilot villages, RDI undertook livelihood promotion experiments to maximise land use and enhance access to food and income through convergence of different ongoing livelihoods development options under various schemes. In the scaling-up phase, similar livelihoods convergence interventions could be undertaken using CRPs.



Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Pattnaik distributing the first set of 'patta' to the landless people.

⁷ Based on its success CRP model has been scaled to 1042 villages in 7 OTELP districts in 2011.

⁸ Schedule areas are tribal dominated areas in the country declared as scheduled under the fifth and sixth schedule of Indian Constitution. About 13 districts are wholly or partially come under Schedule V areas in Odisha.



ESTABLISHING PARTNERSHIPS WITH GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY

The CRPs are the trusted lieutenants of the landless people who take the concept of self help one step forward by volunteering to ensure people get their entitlements.

In the few months since they have been trained and introduced in the community, the CRPs have emerged as 'barefoot revenue officials' who support the Revenue Department in addressing landlessness. Given their knowledge of the community, local culture and physical location, CRPs have greater familiarity with the target audience and the socio-cultural milieu, placing them in a better position to address long standing land issues. They are able to quickly identify landless households and ensure secure access and entitlement to both house sites and farmland within a stipulated timeframe.

"When officials from RDI came and discussed the selection of CRPs and told us that they would help in identifying homesteadless households, I was not sure how these young men, who had no idea about revenue work, would help us with land allocation. But when they started work, after their orientation, I was pleasantly surprised. I wondered why this thought of using village unemployed youth for land allocation had not occurred to me earlier. Clearly, CRPs were providing critical support to expedite land settlement by identifying homesteadless households, demarcating plots, filling formats, delivering notices and organising camp courts."



Congress Mallick
Revenue Inspector, Mathura
Khalikote Tahasil, Ganjam

Value addition by CRPs

The CRPs have made the land allocation and settlement process more locally driven, participatory, transparent and faster than before. They are also seen as a permanent resource who would stay on in the village, lending necessary support and help in areas relating to land allocation and development.

“My grandfather lived and died without getting a patta, my father lived and died without even seeing a patta. But I am happy that I will have a patta now and with the patta I can avail a loan and invest on agricultural equipment- may be a pump or plough.”



Mahadev Bhotra

*65 years, Claimant, Telakanadi, Jharigaon block
Nabarangpur*

Giving Confidence to People

For long, the landless have waited for the Government to come to their doorstep with the *patta*, knowing also, that unless they approach the concerned authorities and follow-up persistently, things will not move. Seeing a village unemployed youth become a CRP to support land settlement with success, has given immense confidence to the landless poor. People now

“CRPs are supporting land allocation in many ways. Starting from the community meeting to collection of Record of Rights (RoR), their involvement is direct and critical. Being local tribals, they offer support to Revenue Inspectors in identifying landless households. Employing CRPs is an excellent strategy that can help complete land allocation in a timely manner.”



Bhimsen Sabar, OAS
Tahasiladar, Laxmipur, Koraput

“I am working for my own people. What has the Government done for the marginalised tribes after 65 years of independence? Now it is time for us to volunteer to bring change, I will do whatever required for the development of my village.”



Makaranda Majhi
*Community Resource Person
Telakanadi, Jharigaon block, Nabarangpur*

feel that perhaps land settlement was not such a difficult and intimidating task after all and that had they made an effort to understand, pursue and persevere, things would have turned in their favour much earlier.

However, having a special cadre of people like the CRPs not only simplifies the land settlement process but also helps break age old myths such as: “land allocation and settlement can only be initiated and resolved by revenue officials”, or “allocation and settlement needs revenue expertise and is a long drawn process.”

Collecting authentic and credible data

The data collected by the CRPs is usually more current and accurate. Their lists contain data of eligible households who are entitled to get land. Government records and websites on the other hand have details of households which already have land but lack data on people without land.

CRP as change maker

The community regards the CRP as an internal change maker. When the CRP helps organise a meeting with the community to discuss land allocation in the presence of the Revenue Inspector, the community's acceptance and trust in Government systems immediately registers an

“Though I was one of the trainers who had to orient CRPs in identification of landless households, I was not expecting them to help me so significantly. Their contribution in finding genealogy and preparing the family tree, demarcating and organising camp courts was commendable. They helped us serve notices to identified households, bringing them to the camp court. Without them, it would not have been possible for me to conduct the activity so smoothly.”

Ganesh Chandra Khillar
Revenue Inspector, Nakamamudi
Kudumulguma Tahasil, Malkangiri

upward trend. By bridging service delivery gaps between the community and Government departments, given their understanding of problems, and rapport with the community, they proved their competence in extending post-allocation support to the community. The CRPs extend support to

“CRPs play a key role in assisting the Revenue Inspectors in the enumeration of landless households, as it is not possible for the RI to visit every household. CRPs’ assistance in the triangulation process too helps in accurate identification of the landless.”



Sarojini Prasanna Kundu, OAS
Tahasildar, Jharigaon Tahasil, Nabarangpur

“CRPs are like angels who helped these hapless desias (tribes). Now these people will get rights over the land that they lived on for more than 75 years - almost three generations.”



Domain Gountia
Sarpanch, San Bimaguda
Jharigaon block, Nabarangpur

homestead owners in developing homestead gardens by availing extension services from horticulture department and MGNREGS job card from gram panchayat, obtaining Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) assistance from the block and technical know-how from other institutions.



Camp court at Kosagumuda block of Nabarangpur district

CRPs create a win-win situation for the community

- Serve as a link between the community and Revenue Department, making land settlement a time-bound process.
- Are catalysts in land allocation and help restore the community's confidence in government systems by bringing the Revenue Department closer to the people.
- Seen as a village resource who provides access and entitlement services.
- Regarded by the community as a 'friend in need', who does not disappear after land allocation.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. How to prevent the CRP from assuming unauthorised powers and trying to become another Revenue Inspector?

Ans: An inherent characteristic of the CRP model is that transparency in operation is maintained by default. Whether it is selection of the CRP, collection of household list or village Record of Rights (RoR), triangulation and reaching a final list of homesteadless and landless families, the entire exercise is done in consultation with and informed consent of the villagers. The information flows several times back and forth to check the authenticity of claims. The final list is read out before the villagers in a well-represented village meeting. After the meeting, the lists get approved and the settlement process starts. Moreover, at each step the local RI keeps an eye on the CRP and provides necessary guidance. So, the chances of the CRPs assuming unauthorised powers are actually remote.

Q. How can the CRP remain above village level and party politics to provide authentic landless and homesteadless figures?

Ans: The three key players of the landless identification process are the Revenue Inspector, villagers and the CRP. The villagers may be polarised on party lines, but to ensure that the CRP does not respond to or succumb to the whims and fancies of influential village political leaders, the selection of the CRP is done in a meeting where, as far as possible, the entire village congregates. Besides, the Revenue Department (or facilitating agency, such as OTELP) clearly explains to villagers the transparent method that the CRP must use to identify homesteadless and landless families. The design of the process is so transparent that any effort to tamper with it would only expose political and partisan intentions. It is, therefore, in the interest of the entire village that narrow village politics are kept at bay.

Q. Do the *Panchayat* functionaries have a role in the land allocation process?

Ans: Yes, the *Panchayat* functionaries (*Sarpanch* and Ward Members) do play a role, though not so much in their official capacity but as prominent members of the village community. By design, the CRP model is not dependent on *Panchayat* functionaries for its functioning, though it is ensured that they are aware of the roles and functions of the CRP. The reasons for keeping CRP functioning away from the *Panchayat* functionaries are to avoid delays that inevitably accompany *Panchayat* approvals and compliances and to avoid demotivating a large number of people as a result of failing to make it an initiative of the entire village. Besides, there is a good chance of segregating villages and see *Panchayat* functionaries having a say in the CRP's work.

Q. How does the CRP reduce the work load of the Revenue Inspector?

Ans: One of the most critical aspects of the land allocation process is the identification of homesteadless and landless families, which the CRP accomplishes through household survey and verification of records. The Revenue Inspectors earlier never had the time for such time consuming processes but with CRPs on board, their role in identification of the extent of homesteadlessness and landlessness has become minimal. Similarly, during the field verification and filling of relevant forms, the CRP relieves the Revenue Inspector of the task to organise the community, help households to fill out forms, and serve individual and general notices.



ORGANISATION AND PLANNING

The orientation and training process for the CRPs is simple and imparted in the most uncomplicated manner by the revenue officials to ensure that land allocation is faster and accurate.

The CRP comes on board after being jointly selected by the community and the Revenue Inspector. Selection of the CRP has to be unanimously agreed upon in an open village meeting following a transparent and democratic process. The process starts with the local Revenue Inspector explaining to the community the need for a CRP and his/her roles and responsibilities, and the criteria for selection.

The village meeting is held to select the CRP and it must ensure participation of *Panchayat* functionaries, women's groups and village elders. The members present are allowed time to debate amongst themselves, within the village on who could be the right candidate to deliver what is expected. The task of the Revenue Inspector becomes relatively easy in villages, where there is unanimous choice. But where a number of names are suggested, it becomes important to discuss the pros and cons as also seek feedback of the Revenue Inspector. The CRP is finally selected through a joint agreement between the community and Revenue Inspector, that is duly ratified at the village meeting. The reason for making the selection process transparent and participatory is to give confidence to people and also to pave the way for the CRPs to carry out their work smoothly.



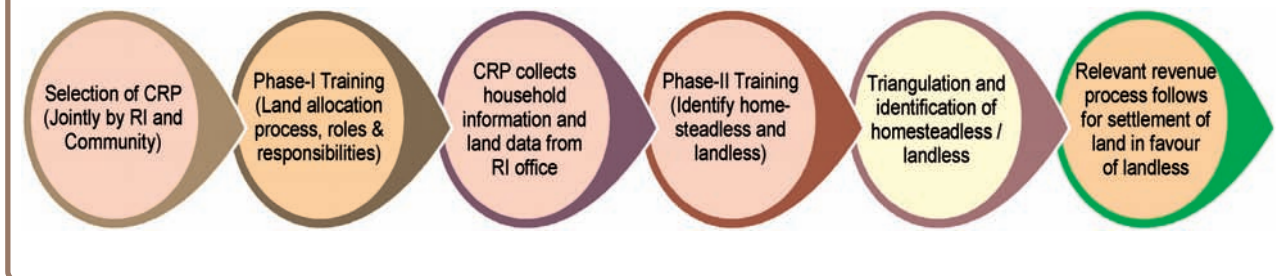
I. Training & capacity building of CRPs

The CRPs undergo trainings in a phased manner in which they are trained on collection of household information and details from village RoR, enumeration process and identification of landless households.

Step-wise allocation process

STEPS	TASKS	LEVEL	NOTES
Step - I	Selection of CRPs	Village	Facilitation would be required by a facilitating agency (Govt programme, local NGO)
Step II	Training of CRPs	Revenue Circle	Two-day orientation on collection of household list, details from village RoR – (how to fill up formats)
Step III	Collection of household list and collection of village RoR	Village <i>Anganwadi</i> Centre, <i>Panchayat</i> office and RI office	The local RI guides and oversees CRPs' work-validation of data at village level
Step IV	Triangulation training	Revenue circle	One-day training on identification of landless and homesteadless by cross checking of data from different sources
Step V	Preparation of village-wise landless list	For each village	RI validates and the list is shared with <i>Tahasildar</i> for instruction to RI for field verification
Step VI	Field verification	Village	CRP supports RI in land measurement and demarcation process. Ensures community as well as claimants presence during the field verification process
Step VII	Submission of application	Village	CRP works with the individual claimant to submit fresh application – submission of G-form by RI. Provides relevant information during preparation of individual case records
Step VIII	Camp Court	Revenue Circle	CRP serves notice and ensures the presence of each landless family to appear in the hearing process by <i>Tahasildar</i>
Step IX	<i>Patta</i> distribution	<i>Tahasil</i> /RI circle	Ensures beneficiaries presence to receive <i>Patta</i>

Phases of CRP Training



Phase-I Training: It is a two-day on-the-job residential training that starts with field work where CRPs closely interact with the Revenue Inspector who guides them at every step. The training is designed to impart basic understanding on land allocation processes, methods for collection of household information and RoR details. During the training, the role of CRP is discussed in detail along with modalities of operation and Revenue Inspector's support and facilitation. On the second day, CRPs get practical orientation on collection of household information, RoRs, different categories of land, and on using different forms and formats. The training is usually conducted in a central location which is convenient for CRPs to reach and has reasonable facilities for board and lodge.



CRPs are trained in the field on collection of landholding details, tracing genealogy and reading of cadastral map.

Phase-II Training: The process of preparing genealogy and cross-checking to identify the landless and homesteadless households is discussed in Phase II training that is conducted soon after the CRPs collect all the village level information.

II. Triangulation to identify landless families

After collection of household information, RoR details and genealogy of RoR holder, the CRPs note the details in prescribed formats which are cross-checked by the Revenue Inspector and the local facilitating agency, for instance OTELP.

The CRPs assist Revenue officials in field verification and measurement of plots currently under occupation. They play a vital role in mobilising community members and ensuring each applicant gets the notice for camp court (court outside the office of the *Tahasildar*) within the stipulated time. They continue to follow-up with the Revenue Inspector so that *patta* distribution is done in a time-bound manner.

In each of the training phases, the *Tahasildar* and RI are the key resource persons who provide necessary guidance and technical inputs to participants. In the scale-up with OTELP, NGO facilitators and OTELP staff are also part of the training, since their involvement and understanding of the programme is essential to provide occasional support to CRPs during the

TRIANGULATION

Triangulation is a process of cross-verification to ascertain the exact number of homesteadless and landless households that are eligible for land allocation.

In this process, the share of land holding (homestead land, agricultural land, *padar* land and other types of land recognised under FRA) of the current household - whether recorded in his/her name or inherited from the forefathers without partition/mutation under 19 (1) C of the OLR Act, is collated and verified from the official records. In order to determine the landholding share of the parental property among the households where the partition or mutation is not done for the last 2/3 generations, the property share is calculated manually by following the genealogy of the record holder and the share of the household is ascertained. This verification also unveils whether a household is landless as per the government norms or not.

The procedure of triangulation for cross-verification of all records and identifying homesteadless and landless is described in Phase-II training (Annexure-IV).

different steps of the land allocation process. Logistical arrangements for the training, such as training venue, accommodation of CRPs, vehicle for field visits, projector and other training material are arranged in advance. (Annexure IV).

III. Roles and responsibilities of CRP

The CRP's role is chronologically mapped out. S/he first has to identify the landless, and then facilitate the field verification and report submission process. This is followed by organising the camp court and ensuring that all processes are adhered to during the camp court and in the post camp court period for final allocation of *patta*.

1. Identification of homesteadlessness and landlessness

In order to identify homesteadless and landless households in a village, the CRP has to collect information from different sources. During this process, the Revenue Inspector supports and guides the CRP. The CRP undertakes the following tasks during the identification process.

- Collects household list from *Anganwadi* Centre (and/or from *Panchayat* Office); validates it in a village meeting; prepares final list of households in the village.
- Collects land information from the village RoR available in the office of the Revenue Inspector in specified formats such as *Rayati* land and Government land and lists of beneficiaries covered under Government land distribution programmes (homestead and farmland) including the Vasundhara scheme; also collects list of households who have received land titles under the Forest Rights Act.
- Prepares genealogy (family tree) of each *rayat* (*patta* holder) of the village to determine the share of land among legal heirs (Annexure: I)
- After triangulation, the CRP prepares village-wise list of homesteadless and landless households and submits to the Revenue Inspector for confirmation.



Field verification alongwith community members, CRP and Revenue officials



Demarcation of plots by Revenue officials in presence of community and CRP

2. Field verification and submission of reports

A series of tasks are undertaken once the initial process of identification is over. These are:

- The list of homesteadless and landless families identified under the triangulation process is submitted to the concerned *Tahasildar*, which is further reviewed and validated by the respective Revenue Inspectors for finalisation of homesteadless and landless households
- On instruction from the *Tahasildar*, the Revenue Inspector conducts field enquiry and verification. Here, the CRP supports the Revenue Inspector in activities like informing homesteadless and landless families, organising community for their presence to verify and ascertain land details (*Khata*, *Kissam*, Plot No, *Rakaba* and extent of land under possession) of current house site and land under cultivation
- After cross-checking and finalising the list by the Revenue Inspector, depending on the category of land under occupation, the CRP helps in filling up requisite forms such as Form G and submits the same to the *Tahasildar*
- The Revenue Inspector and *Amin* (Land Surveyor) undertake demarcation of the plot to prepare a sketch map. During demarcation, the CRP helps in organising the community and

FIELD VERIFICATION

Field verification is one of the key steps of the land settlement process. Before initiating settlement, land that is proposed to be settled in favour of the landless household is verified by the field level Revenue officials through survey and review of RoR to ascertain the *kissam* of land, extent of area under possession and *chauhadi*, and so on.

Once the homesteadless and landless list that is submitted by CRP is validated and accepted by the *Tahasildar*, the *Tahasildar* instructs the respective Revenue Inspector to conduct field verification of the land under possession and submit a report in a prescribed format ('G' Form). In order to ascertain the land *kissam* and the extent of land under possession, the Revenue Inspector along with the *Amin* and the Chainman demarcates and measures the size of each plot occupied by the homesteadless and landless households. The CRP provides required support to the Revenue Inspector in the verification process while the concerned household and the community members support the process.

providing necessary support (informing/ organising the beneficiary, plot measurements) to the Revenue Inspector.

- On receipt of the enquiry report, the *Tahasildar* instructs the Revenue Inspector to initiate necessary processes for holding a camp court. The *Tahasildar* issues notice for camp court and the Revenue Inspector serves the notice to homesteadless/landless households. The CRP then ensures that each homesteadless and landless household receives the notice within the stipulated time.

3. Camp Court process

A Camp court is normally convened when the *Tahasildar* is convinced that a field visit is required in

the area before actual settlement of cases. It serves as a single window delivery system by providing hearing at the doorstep, helping conduct on-the-spot inquiry. This helps in taking quick decision on land settlement and distribution of *patta* at a later date.

Objectives of holding Camp Court

Camp Court hearing includes ensuring eligibility of people under possession of such land; ascertaining whether land applied for is free from encroachment or encumbrance and whether lease can be granted, examining if any de-reservation is necessary and if the applicant is eligible to get land for the purpose for which s/he applied. The CRP performs the following tasks:

- During the camp court, households comply with the show cause notice served by the *Tahasildar* by submitting an affidavit explaining the reason for occupation of land. The CRP helps the households in filling up the affidavit form.
- The *Tahasildar* initiates a hearing to verify physical possession and authenticity of all records provided and claims over government land, including lease etc. The households pay the required assessment fee for encroachment as proof of possession and if all criteria are fulfilled, the *Tahasildar* grants the *patta*.

4. Post Camp Court processes

Once the camp court is successfully held, a number of tasks have to be completed, such as:

- The decision to grant *patta* is followed by preparation of case records
- A 15-day proclamation notice for OPLE (30 days in case of OGLS) is served by the *Tahasildar* to invite objections and ensure the land does not have multiple claims. The CRP ensures the proclamation notice that reaches the *Gram Panchayat* and the village.
- In case of multiple claims, the aggrieved may appeal in the Sub-Collector's Office with a certified copy of the order.
- If there is no such appeal, RoR and village cadastral map is corrected and intimation slip sent to the Revenue Inspector.
- The Revenue Inspector makes changes in the original record and opens a new tenant ledger
- *Patta* is prepared at the *Tahasildar's* office, to be distributed after 15 days. The CRP provides necessary information during preparation of individual case records.



Camp court to ascertain the authenticity of claims, Gumma Tahasil, Gajapati.



HOMESTEAD DEVELOPMENT AND LIVELIHOODS CONVERGENCE

Productive and effective utilisation of the homestead plot by way of creating home and kitchen garden is key to food and nutritional security. It is important that the family after receiving the homestead title has access to various government livelihoods programmes and is engaged in developing its micro-plot

Micro-plots are plots of one acre or less, which typically include the house or are located near it. These plots can be used for shelter, vegetable and tree cultivation, rearing of small livestock (goat, sheep, poultry birds), home-based enterprises and other income generating activities. By diversifying livelihood sources, vulnerable populations can guard against economic and natural calamities. Such plots often serve several functions simultaneously, including increasing family income, enhancing family nutrition, providing physical security, serving as a vehicle for generating wealth, and securing the family's status within the community. Thus, homestead development and post-allocation interventions are very critical in the land allocation programme in order to establish effective utilisation of allotted land and to improve livelihoods of people.⁹

Contrary to popular belief, even plots as small as one-tenth of an acre can be effective in impacting household food security of poor households. The approach envisages converging with Government programmes already in place to help families effectively use allotted land. The convergence approach follows once allocation issues are resolved and homesteadless families receive house-sites. The homestead development approach results in development of allotted land and through setting up of home gardens, households are able to improve family food security. The convergence of Government programmes must be done in a way that creates a more intensive, result oriented and step-wise intervention through active involvement of the community. Families must not be passive



⁹ Mitchel, R, Tim Hanstad and Robin Nielsen , 'Micro-plots for the rural poor', One Billion Rising, Leiden University Press, 2009, pp. 153.

receivers of supplies, but should generate demand for Government services, volunteering to monitor programme implementation.

Government programmes for developing homestead plots

As a matter of practice and tradition, homestead gardening in Odisha has been the domain of women, who take the decision to develop and plant seedlings of their choice. Recognising this and the impact of outreach of SHGs, the Government of Odisha introduced the Backyard Plantation Programme in 2009. However, the challenge was that all those poor households who may have been deserving but were not part of the SHG fold could not access the programme.

Similarly, vegetable mini-kits distributed by the Horticulture Department were restricted to small and marginal farmers who had land. The landless/homesteadless families were excluded in the programme.

Grant for house construction under IAY was available only to BPL families whose name appeared in the permanent wait-list and who had a *patta*. Even though there are Government schemes and



Homestead owners growing variety of vegetables, greens, tubers and fruits in homestead gardens

Piloting homestead development in Ganjam

In a unique example that demonstrated integrated development through convergence, 11 families of Kharibandh, Ganjam in July 2010, received *patta* for house-sites on which they had been residing for years. These families depended on agriculture (mainly rice production) through share cropping, wage labour and migration. They kept herds of goat, many of which died during a disease outbreak. They also reared birds of poultry, which served them during times of emergency and festivities.

On the day they received *patta*, they formed themselves into a self-help group (SHG) to commemorate the occasion. Soon, the allotted land was ploughed and converted into vegetable gardens. Land that was earlier left fallow or used as threshing yard now produced different varieties of vegetables, greens and tubers. After allocation of house-sites by the Revenue Department, the Horticulture Department provided them with seedlings and vegetable mini kits at subsidised rate for the home garden. They also accessed seedlings under the Backyard Plantation Programme of Women and Child Development Department. This became an example of 'integrated' development, achieved through 'convergence' between different departments and agencies.

All families have now registered themselves in MGNREGS. More recently, four families have been granted assistance of ₹45,000 each under IAY and will be able to build *pucca* houses on the allotted land. International Development Enterprises (India) provided technical guidance and training for installation of treadle pumps to irrigate the fields. They demonstrated and trained people on the use of locally available material to prepare organic pesticides and micro-nutrients.

All through this process, the CRP was significant in mobilising the community, developing plans with them and coordinating with different departments at critical junctures.

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programmes for homestead development, many rural poor are unable to access them in the absence of secure rights to land.

Families that have been identified in a transparent process and then allotted house-sites were earlier not covered under any of the above schemes since they

did not fulfill the eligibility criteria. Many of the poorest families were not members of an SHG, and did not have *patta* for the land they lived on. Hence, it was proposed that once families receive *patta* to a homestead plot, they ought to be automatically eligible for the above services. Only then will the programme have the desired impact on the poorest.

Programme Component	Description and Provisions	Role of CRP
Homestead plot allocation for the homesteadless	Poor families without secured homestead land will be identified and allotted suitable land under provisions of OPLE and OGLS.	CRP facilitates in the collection of household data, details of land holding status as per Revenue records, helps in organising the community, application collection, field verification and supports the Revenue Inspector in land allocation process.
Land development and composting	Wage labour component under MGNREGS for land leveling, fencing and preparation of homestead garden, including compost pit.	CRP helps in filling up the application for MGNREGS job card, contacts Block official for approval and sanction of job card, facilitates community in preparing a plan for improvement of the allotted land and access employment from MGNREGS.
Crop planning and inputs for homestead garden	Seedlings distributed under Backyard Plantation Programme, vegetable mini kit and seedlings (drumstick, lime, papaya) at subsidised rate from Horticulture Department. Assistance for compost pit and small size vermiculture unit for individual homestead gardens	CRP works with community members, especially women farmers, for crop plan and home garden, shares list of inputs required with Horticulture Department, coordinates with them for timely supply of seeds and seedlings; follows-up with community for farm operations; and seeks guidance on home garden.
Capacity building of homestead plot owners	Capacity building on composting, organic farming, crop selection, water management, organic pest management, nutrition education	CRP, in consultation with officials of KVK, the Agriculture and Horticulture Department, ICDS, etc, coordinates participation in appropriate training programmes.
Assistance for house construction	Eligible poor BPL families with a housesite provided financial assistance (₹45,000) for house construction under IAY/Mo-Kudira from Panchayati Raj Department.	CRP helps in application submission to the Block Development Officer, facilitates during <i>palli sabha</i> and follows-up with BDO/VLW. After allotment, CRP helps in opening bank accounts, coordinates designing and helps in arranging material for construction of <i>pucca</i> house.



Homestead owners adopting low cost irrigation methods for multi-season cropping on home gardens.

Post-land allocation interventions

Households that are allotted land are among the poorest and most vulnerable in society and would need support and facilitation for homestead development and livelihoods improvement. Since the CRPs are already engaged in identifying the poorest families during the land allocation process, it becomes imperative that after land allocation, they continue the facilitation, helping households avail inputs and services, such as wage employment under MGNREGS, agro-horti kits from the Horticulture Department, seedlings from the backyard plantation programme and even grant for construction of house under the IAY programme. They could also be included in capacity building programmes on organic farming, water management and nutrition education provided by the KVK or ATMA.

Such integration and convergence of land allocation and other development programmes is critical in habitat development and formation of new hamlets and settlements, especially in Revenue villages where basic amenities and extension services are difficult to reach. Moreover, hand holding support provided by

CRPs is inherently inclusive in nature, ensuring universal coverage.

CRPs in homestead development

By now CRPs have gathered substantial knowledge of and information on existing schemes and programmes. They have become familiar with these programmes during training involving representatives from different departments such as Panchayati Raj, Horticulture and Agriculture. The post-allocation role of CRP includes:

- Organising the community and working with them to prepare an action plan for homestead development
- Preparing a list of inputs required/checklists
- Filling up requisite application forms and coordinating with different departments for timely supply of inputs.

Homestead development involves linkage with different departments and cannot function on its own. It needs facilitation and convergence at both grassroots and programmatic levels in the blocks and districts. The CRPs are valuable members of the village serving as a critical link between the community and different departments. They ensure demands and plans reach the appropriate agency while simultaneously coordinating and facilitating in a manner that ensures services and inputs are delivered in a timely manner.



Homestead owners harvesting vegetables from homestead garden



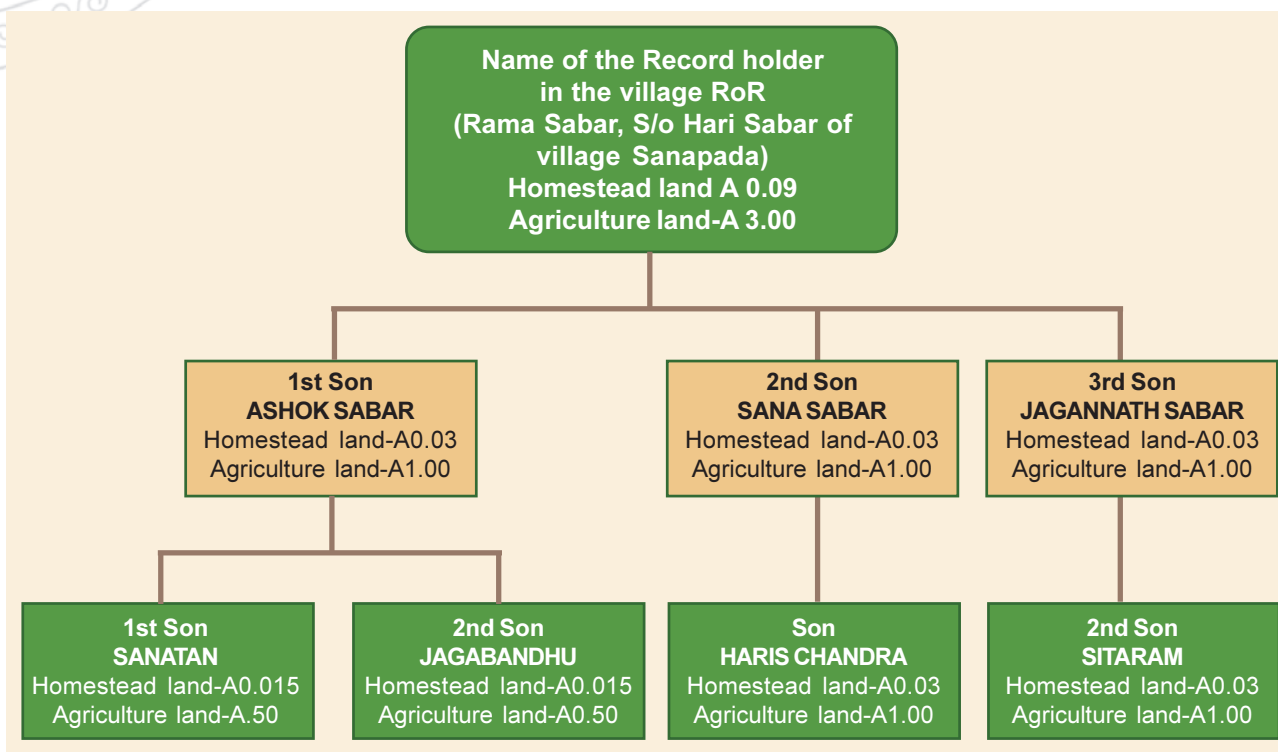
Annexures



ANNEXURE-I

Genealogy to determine share of land holding for each household

For example, *Khata* No-1 is recorded in the name of Rama Sabar S/O- Hari Sabar of village Sanapada. We need to find out the exact amount of land holdings of his grandson (say Sanatan) whose name is listed in household list of the village. One can come out with the exact information on the land holdings by following the process given below.



- The genealogy will look like the above picture.
- As above, Rama Sabar has Ac 0.09 of homestead land and Ac 3.00 of agricultural land. He has three sons. The total amount of land has to be distributed among his three sons in equal amount, which comes about Ac 0.03 of homestead land and Ac 1.00 of agricultural land for each son. Ashok Sabar, first son has two sons namely Sanatan and Jagabandhu, Sana Sabar, 2nd son has one son name Harischandra, and Jagannath Sabar, 3rd son has one son named Sitaram. If we need to find out the land holding status of sons of Ashok Sabar we need to divide the Ashok Sabar's share of land into number of sons/daughters he has. As evident from the figure, Ashok has two sons, his property will be divided into two equal parts between his two sons. As evident, Ashok Sabar has Ac 0.03 of homestead land and Ac 1.00 of agricultural land, the land holding share of Sanatan and Jagabandhu will be Ac 0.015 of homestead land and Ac 0.50 of agricultural land each.
- The CRP needs to prepare the genealogy of all record holders following the process stated above to find out accurate land holding status of present households in the village.

Issues needing attention

Identification and selection of CRP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With low levels of literacy in tribal dominated villages, it is difficult to find a suitable candidate to work as a CRP. Moreover, to stipulate a certain educational qualification for a CRP is often a difficult proposition. The selection of CRP, therefore, is left to the judgement of the Revenue Inspector. 2. Retaining the CRPs for continued engagement in the land allocation programme has also emerged as an issue as the youth are most likely to explore other remunerative employment options. 3. Ideally a CRP can function effectively in 3-4 villages having 150-200 households. However, the CRPs may be selected depending on geographical and physical proximity of villages.
Capacity Building of CRPs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CRPs have to be properly trained and equipped with the requisite skills and procedures required for settlement of land with active inputs from the local Revenue officials in order to deliver quality work within the stipulated time period. 2. While scaling the model, training of CRPs needs to be properly imparted following adequate standards so that CRPs grasp the details of land allocation process and understand revenue procedures.
Adoption of CRP model for land settlement for the landless	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CRP model is not a self-starter and as such there is need for specific guidelines and financial allocation for the programme. For instance, externally aided government programmes may provide the required financial and monitoring support. 2. The District Administration headed by the District Collector is critical for the CRP model to function and deliver. Apart from owning the process, the Collector has to send clear instructions in the form of letters and guidelines to ensure complete support of the entire revenue administration, especially Tahasildars and Revenue Inspectors.

ANNEXURE-III

Annual work-plan for Community Resource Persons

Month	Activities	Output	Notes
1st & 2nd months (Training and data collection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection of household list from the Anganwadi centre/<i>Gram Panchayat</i> Validation/approval of the list in the village meeting Collection of RoR – <i>Rayati</i> and Government land, Vasundhara list from concerned RI circle Collection of information of allottees under FRA from Revenue Inspector or ITDA/SDLC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of completed list of the households of each village Record of Rights of <i>rayati</i> land, Vasundhara land and government land collected in prescribed format. Availability of land records recognized under FRA, 2006 	<p>Training (Phase-I): Capacity building of CRPs on data collection</p> <p>(It is ideal for a CRP to be responsible for 150-200 households covering 3-4 villages)</p>
3rd & 4th months (Identification of homesteadless and landless families through triangulation process)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of genealogy of the RoR holder to determine the land holding share of the inheritor. Triangulation of household list along with village RoR and other related information Identification of homestead and land less families with support from concerned RI Submission of final list of homesteadless / 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of report on land holding status of every family in a pre-designed format. Availability of list of homesteadless and landless families. Verification of legal status of current house site and encroached farm (agriculture) land is done. 	<p>Training (Phase-II) on triangulation (Triangulation training is imparted to facilitating agency/ NGO)</p> <p>Facilitating agency/ NGO facilitates CRP training in their respective areas.</p> <p>Facilitating agency/ NGO organises joint meeting with <i>Tahasildar</i>, Revenue</p>

Month	Activities	Output	Notes
	<p>landless families to concerned Revenue Inspector for validation and confirmation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical verification of the current house site/ farm land by respective Revenue Inspectors with support from CRPs and FNGO. 		Inspectors and CRPs for physical verification
<p>5th& 6th months</p> <p>(Initiation of settlement process for families residing on leasable land)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Revenue Inspector in “G” form submission Ensure and help in serving notice to the individual / community issued by the <i>Tahasildar</i>. Support the Revenue Inspector in demarcation of plot, sketch map and verification report. Coordinate and support the Revenue Inspector in organizing Camp court Ensure presence and support of homesteadless/landless families during Camp court Organize village meeting for <i>patta</i> distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ‘G’ Form and sketch map of the land to be settled is shared with <i>Tahasildar</i> by respective Revenue Inspector. Notices served in time. Hearing of cases to be settled are completed in the camp court. 	Training cum review by facilitating agency/ NGO.

Month	Activities	Output	Notes
7th & 8th months (Application procedure for settlement of families residing on objectionable land)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of application from the eligible households residing on objectionable land • Support Revenue Inspector in plot identification, demarcation , sketch map and case record preparation • Ensure and help in serving notice • Organize village meeting for <i>patta</i> distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application submitted to the Revenue Inspector from the households residing on objectionable govt land. • Verification report and case record prepared by Revenue Inspector with requisite sketch map and supporting documents. • Eligible households are served notice by the <i>Tahasildar</i> for settlement of land as the case may be. 	CRPs provide necessary support to Revenue Inspector in settlement of objectionable land.
9th to 12th months (Homestead development through convergence, follow-up for land settlement of people residing on objectionable land)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up with <i>Tahasildar</i> and Revenue Inspector for settlement of land under occupation objectionable land. • Co-ordinate with line departments for homestead development and nutrition education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture – seed inputs, trainingo Horticulture - Vegetable mini kit, compost pit - Animal Resources Development-backyard poultry programme - ICDS – backyard plantation program, nutrition education - Panchayati Raj Dept - Indira Awas Yojna - Other Government schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification report and case record prepared by RI with requisite map and supporting documents. • Families provided training on home garden and nutrition education, access services from line departments for homestead development 	Facilitating NGO / agency coordinate with line departments to access services under prevalent schemes and organise training on homestead development, home garden and household food security.

Training Module for CRPs: Phase-I

Two days training to facilitate and support Revenue officials in land allocation programme

Day One: Session I (Government policies and programmes related to homestead less and landless)

Content (approx 2 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing broad idea about CRPs - functions, need, roles and responsibilities • Sharing of Vasundhara scheme with objectives, successes and operational gaps in the implementation • Eligibility criteria for homesteadless and landless • Discussion about Revenue laws and acts (OGLS and OPLE Acts, other guidelines and circulars) • Discussion about FRA Act and process of recognition
Lead Responsibility	Local Revenue Official (<i>Tahasildar</i> / Revenue Inspector)
Training Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines and circulars on land allocation including Vasundhara scheme, copies of OGLS & OPLE act and rules, FRA Act and guidelines • Documentary film on functioning of CRPs • White board, marker and flip chart, sketch pen, training kit for the participants
Session Content	<p>A. <u>Discuss Vasundhara Scheme:</u> Vasundhara scheme was introduced by Government of Odisha in 2005-06 to provide homestead land up to 10 decimals to homesteadless households. In this regard an enumeration across 30 districts indicated about 2.49 lakhs homesteadless families were identified. Subsequently Vasundhara scheme was launched in 2006-07 and so far upto 2011, 2.75 lakh families have been allotted <i>patta</i> for housesites in the state. Even after several years of implementation, studies have revealed that a good number of households are still without secured <i>patta</i> for their homestead plots. Some of reasons for the gap in implementation of the program are:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff shortage issues at the Revenue Inspector Circle and <i>Tahasil</i> levels • Limited time period for identification of homesteadless and landless. <p><u>B. Provisions under OGLS & OPLE for land settlement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per OGLS Act, government land can be allocated to the eligible landless families subject to availability of leasable government land within the village or close by. • As per OPLE Act, there is provision to regularise land under occupation in favour of the landless families provided the land under occupation is of leasable category. • Every homesteadless family to be provided homestead land upto an extent of 10 decimals (0.10 acre) and landless family to be provided upto 1 standard acre of farmland either through by allotment of available Govt. land in the village as per provisions in OGLS Act or through settlement of occupied government land as per provisions of OPLE Act. • In case the land is to be allotted under OGLS, eligible landless/homesteadless family has to apply to the concerned Revenue Inspector for allotment of Govt. land. • In case of OPLE, concerned Revenue Inspector initiates the settlement process by submitting form 'G' and recommending the settlement of land in favour of the landless/homesteadless family. <p><u>C. Eligibility of homestead less and landless families:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members living in a common mess (<i>chula</i> or kitchen) will be considered as a single family; • Family without secured title (<i>patta</i>) to any homestead land. • Family with less than 1 standard acre of agricultural land recorded in their favour; • Annual family income less than ₹24,000.
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common understanding amongst participants on Vasundhara scheme, key issues and challenges. • Developed understanding on eligibility criteria to identify potential landless/homesteadless families. • Developed understanding on various process of distribution/settlement of land for homesteadless and landless families.
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainer needs to be cautious and avoid using technical terms, related to the Acts, land laws and policies, as far as possible. • Discussions and sessions to be conducted in simple and precise manner so that village youth are able to understand the basics. • Facilitate 'question – answer' session at end of each session.

Day One: Session II
**(Familiarity on basic revenue terminology and settlement procedures,
 need and role of Community Resource Persons)**

Content (1 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic revenue terminology, understanding on RoR¹, category of land (<i>kissam</i> - leasable and objectionable land), land <i>patta</i>, cadastral map and administrative structure of the revenue dept at Circle and <i>Tahasil</i> level. • Operational requirements and procedures in the land settlement process, roles and responsibilities of CRP, supervisory support and accountability.
Lead Trainer	Revenue Inspector and Resource person
Training Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample RoR (<i>Rayati</i> land, Govt land) of a village. • Copy of land <i>patta</i> (<i>Rayati</i>, Vasundhara and FRA), encroachment notice, cess receipt and cadastral map. • White board, marker and flip chart, sketch pen.
Session Content	<p>A. <u>Familiarity with basic revenue terminology:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Record of Rights/Khatian: plot index, abstract, khatian, land <i>kissam</i> under different <i>Khata</i>. • Different <i>Khata</i> under village RoR- <i>Rayati Khata</i>, Govt. <i>Khata</i> (<i>Abad Jogya Anabadi</i>, <i>Abad Ajogya Anabadi</i>, <i>Rakhita</i> and <i>Sarbasadharan</i>) and Vasundhara record • Examples of different <i>kissam</i> of leasable and objectionable land. • Content of <i>patta</i>- plot no., <i>khata</i> no., <i>chaka</i>, <i>chauhadi</i>, <i>rakaba</i>, <i>kissam</i> and area of land. • Content of land title recognised under FRA • Encroachment notice, cess receipt/penalty receipt, general notice, camp court, sketch map, cadastral map, etc. <p>B. <u>Administrative set-up of Revenue Department</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary – RDC – Collector – Sub-Collector – <i>Tahasildar</i> – RI • Revenue Inspector (RI) - In charge of land administration at circle level supported by the subordinates like (ARI, <i>Amin</i>, Chain man, Peon) • <i>Tahasildar</i> - revenue official at block level to grant <i>patta</i>

	<p>C. Roles and Responsibilities of CRP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitates enumeration process to identify homesteadless and landless families and helps in filing up of applications; • Supports Revenue Inspector in field verification and preparing sketch map, serves notice as instructed by the Revenue Inspector, ensures beneficiaries presence as and when required; • Coordinates and works as a link between Revenue Department and community; • Besides any support required at field/community level is also provided by the CRP to Revenue Inspector.
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CRPs are conversant with basic revenue terminology and land related documents used in the settlement process. • CRPs understand their responsibilities, required support needed to be given to Revenue Inspector in the land settlement process.
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainer should have prior understanding about CRPs roles and their responsibilities at different levels. • While explaining the role of CRP in facilitating enumeration of homesteadless families, the steps (household data collection, validation of household list in the village meeting, RoR collection and triangulation) required for identifying homesteadless and landless list should be explained clearly. • Sessions have to be interactive and trainers need to ensure that participants are asking questions, which should be an indicator of success of the training programme. • Ensure and facilitate group exercises for enhanced understanding.



Day One: Session III
(Collection of household and land holding details)

Content(3 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formats used for collection of household information and land holding details • Process of data collection and validation in village meeting • Required hand holding support during data collection and validation
Lead Responsibility	Revenue Inspector and Resource person
Materials/ Equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of all formats designed for data collection (1) Format designed for Household information, land holding (2) RoR collection format- <i>Rayati</i> land, Vasundhara land, Govt land and forest land under FRA • White board, marker and flip chart, sketch pen.
Session Content	<p>A. <u>Step by step process for collection of household and land holding details:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of Household List (Household Format): collection of household list from Anganwadi Centre / <i>Gram Panchayat</i> and filling up details against each household • Validation of household list: The list of households collected from the AWC / <i>Gram Panchayat</i> is validated in a village meeting to ascertain the exact number of families as of date. This is recorded in a register through a common resolution by the community • Collection of land holding information in specified formats (<i>Rayati</i> land, Vasundhara list and Govt land from Revenue Inspector office and FRA data from ITDA/SDLC). • Support to CRPs during data collection: Discuss with participants in detail about the handholding and coordination support to be required during data collection
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All CRPs are acquainted with the formats designed for data collection and methods as well.
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure and facilitate group exercise by organizing small group and observe their skill in preparing genealogy and filling up of formats.

Day Two

(In-house practice on household and land data collection)

Content (approx 4 hours)	In-house practice session on data collection.
Lead Responsibility	Revenue Inspector and Anganwadi worker
Materials/ Equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of data collection formats (household data, RoR- <i>Rayati</i>, Vasundhara, Govt and FRA data) • RoR and FRA data of a sample village • Records of household data from Anganwadi Centre. • White papers and flip chart
Session Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice on data collection and filling up formats. • Group exercise on collection of household list from Anganwadi centre and land holding details from RoR.
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All CRPs are well versed and familiar with data collection formats.
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainer should spend more time on demonstration and practice on data collection for building confidence of CPRs. • Chalk out action plan with time line for completion of tasks (household list, village validation, RoR details, genealogy) in the assigned village(s).



Training Module for CRPs: Phase-II

One day training on identification of landless

Day One: Session I

(Review of collected information and introduction to Genealogy)

Content(approx 2 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of information collected on households and land holding details • Preparation of genealogy chart of record holders.
Lead Responsibility	Local Revenue Official (<i>Tahasildar</i> / Revenue Inspector)
Materials/ Equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village RoR (<i>Khatian</i>) being maintained by the Revenue Inspector, Vasundhara land details, FRA beneficiary list with land details • Household list with sample genealogy chart. • White board, marker and flip chart, sketch pen
Session Contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of village wise information collected by CRPs on household list, land holding details • Explain about genealogy and how it would help to determine the share of landed property among the members of the patriarchal family where the partition of property has not been made for past 2/3 generations. • Demonstrate the process of preparing genealogy (family tree) that includes inheritors / share holders from the <i>patta</i> holder to current (homestead and agriculture land) on the basis of number of families dependent on the land.
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRPs are well versed in preparing genealogy of recorded tenants. • CRPs are trained to calculate the share of land for each households
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainer should ensure that participants have understood the steps for identification of homesteadless and landless • Trainer should be careful to ensure participation of every participant and facilitate question – answer session at each step. • Ensure and facilitate group exercise for understanding of Genealogy and calculation of share of land holding.

Day One: Session II

(Triangulation and identification of homesteadless and landless households)

Content(2 hours)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description about triangulation for land allocation programme • Discussion about triangulation formats in detailed manner and process of conducting triangulation and identification of homesteadless and landless households.
Lead Trainer	Revenue Inspector
Materials/ Equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triangulation format for each participant • RoR (<i>Rayati khata</i>, land in different type of Government khata), Vasundhara list and list of families whose land is recognized under FRA of a sample village • Genealogy chart of the families as explained above of the same village • White board, marker and flip chart, sketch pen
Session Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss with participants about need of triangulation in order to identify homesteadless and landless households. • Discuss in detail about triangulation format, its use and the steps involved in preparing the list of homesteadless and landless. • Action plan and timeline to prepare the list of homestead less and landless for each village.
Session outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed understanding on triangulation process to identify homesteadless and landless. • Well conversant with the triangulation format to prepare the list of homestead less and landless households in their assigned villages.
Trainer notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ensure and facilitate group exercise and help participants to practice triangulation from available database. · Ensure that CRPs plan accordingly and prepare action plan for completion of triangulation and identify homesteadless and landless in their assigned villages.

Glossary for Training Module

OGLS	: Odisha Government Land Settlement Act 1962.
OPLA	: Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act 1972
Vasundhara scheme	: Homestead land allocation scheme introduced by Government of Odisha during 2005-06 to allocate homestead land upto 10 decimals to homestead households
10 decimals	: $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of an Acre or 435.6 square feet (1 acre = 43560 square feet)
Patta	: Record of Rights. (Legal document in the hands of the tenants over house site and farm land)
RI Circle	: Revenue Inspector Circle is the lowest tier in the Revenue administration structure and managed by a Revenue Inspector (RI) supported by two/three subordinate staffs. One Revenue Circle comprises of a number of revenue villages.
Leasable land	: The category of land which can be provided on lease basis by the competent authority. Settlement of leasable land in favour of eligible homesteadless/landless family can be decided by the <i>Tahasildar</i> .
Objectionable land	: Category of land which cannot be leased or settled in favour of homesteadless or landless families by the <i>Tahasildar</i> . This involves change of <i>kissam</i> that requires authorisation from higher level revenue officials.
Standard Acre	: According to the Odisha Land Reforms Act 1960, basing on the fertility of the soil of the farm land and availability of irrigation facilities the standard acre is determined and classified in four different grades / class.

Category	Extent of land in acres corresponding to 1 standard acre	Details and characteristics of land
Class I	1 acre	Land that yields two crops in a year with irrigation facilities round the year
Class II	1.5 acres	Land that yields one crop in a year with irrigation facilities
Class III	3 acres	Land that yields one crop (paddy) in a year and is only rainfed
Class IV	4.5 acres	Land that is neither fertile to grow paddy crop nor have any irrigation facilities for vegetable cultivation. This land is basically used for growing Cashew nut, Ground nut, Corn, Maize etc.

‘G’ Form	: First enquiry report submitted by the Revenue Inspector for unauthorised occupation of Government land. In this report, the Revenue Inspector can propose for settlement of such land in favour of the homestead less and landless families.
Forest Rights Act (FRA):	Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006). Under this Act, a family occupying forest land upto 4 hectares, rights will be recognised, recorded and vested for tribals residing before 13 th Dec 2005, and for Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been occupying forest land at least for three generations (75 years) prior to 13 th Dec 2005.
Rayati	: Tenant whose name appears in government land records and rights over the land is permanent in nature, which is also heritable and transferrable.
Khatiyan/RoR	: As per Odisha Survey and Settlement Act 1958, a register which is called <i>khatian</i> is maintained for every revenue village where all land records are recorded. The register for each village is available in the office of respective Revenue Circles, <i>Tahasil</i> office and the District Record Room. Each <i>Khatian</i> consists of two <i>khata</i> - Government <i>Khata</i> and <i>Rayati Khata</i> . Government <i>Khata</i> consists of four categories of land– <i>Abad Jogya Anabadi</i> , <i>Abad Ajogya Anabadi</i> , <i>Sarbasadharan</i> and <i>Rakhita</i> .
Khata	: A <i>Khata</i> contains details of all plots (homestead & farm /agriculture land) that are owned by each tenant of a village. All <i>kissam</i> of land belonging to a tenant or to the Government is recorded in a single <i>Khata</i> number with different plot numbers.
Kissam	: <i>Kissam</i> refers to the type of land. The <i>Kissam</i> is determined and categorized on the basis of nature and use of land.
Khata Number	: <i>Khata</i> number is maintained alphabetically in the village RoR.
Chaka	: <i>Chaka</i> means a single plot and named with a local term in the Record of Rights.
Chauhadi	: The surrounded area of a plot that is covered from east, west, north and south.
Rakaba	: Area of a plot of land. A plot may be divided into several sub-plots which all are recorded in one <i>khata</i> . The unit of measurement of the plot varies from region to region.
Abada Jogya Anabadi (Cultivable Waste)	: Land that is fit for agriculture purposes and recorded under government <i>Khata</i> .
Rakhita	: The land which is reserved for communal use by the community/villagers. This land includes grazing/pasture land used currently by the community. The land recorded under <i>Rakhita Khata</i> is objectionable under the law and settlement of this land in favour of the eligible beneficiary is restricted except for the portion of the land categorized as <i>Basti Jogya</i> (for future homestead use).
Sarbasadharan	: Land over which some communal right exists like cremation ground or burial ground, public path, cattle path and the land used for community festivals and functions, etc. is called <i>Sarbasadharan</i> . This land is recorded in a separate <i>Khatian</i> under government <i>Khata</i> . This land is objectionable under the law and settlement of this land in favour of the eligible beneficiary is restricted, though possible.

Abada Ajogya Anabadi

(Uncultivable waste) : Land which are not ordinarily fit for occupation for any non-agricultural or agricultural purposes and over which there is no communal right are recorded in a separate *Khata*. This land includes the land covered by rivers, nalas, hills, hillocks, stone quarries sand hills, lake, or other natural collections of water etc.

Amin : Revenue official who assists in land measurement, demarcation and in preparing sketch map.

Chainman : Revenue official attached to the Revenue Inspector to facilitate physical measurement of land.

Encroachment notice : Under provisions of OPLE Act, 1972, the notice served to any unauthorised occupant of Government land to appear before the court of the *Tahasildar* to explain reasons for such occupation.

Cadastral Map : Revenue map of the village demarcates individual plots and boundaries and other details such as hillocks, river, temple, gochur, cremation ground, water bodies etc.

General notice : During camp court, if *Tahasildar* is convinced to allocate / settle a piece of land to a homesteadless or land less family then a proclamation notice is served inviting objections, if any, over the proposed land.

Camp court : A camp court is convened by the *Tahasildar* for disposal of revenue cases outside of his/her own court i.e. Revenue Inspector office, village, *Panchayat* office, etc.



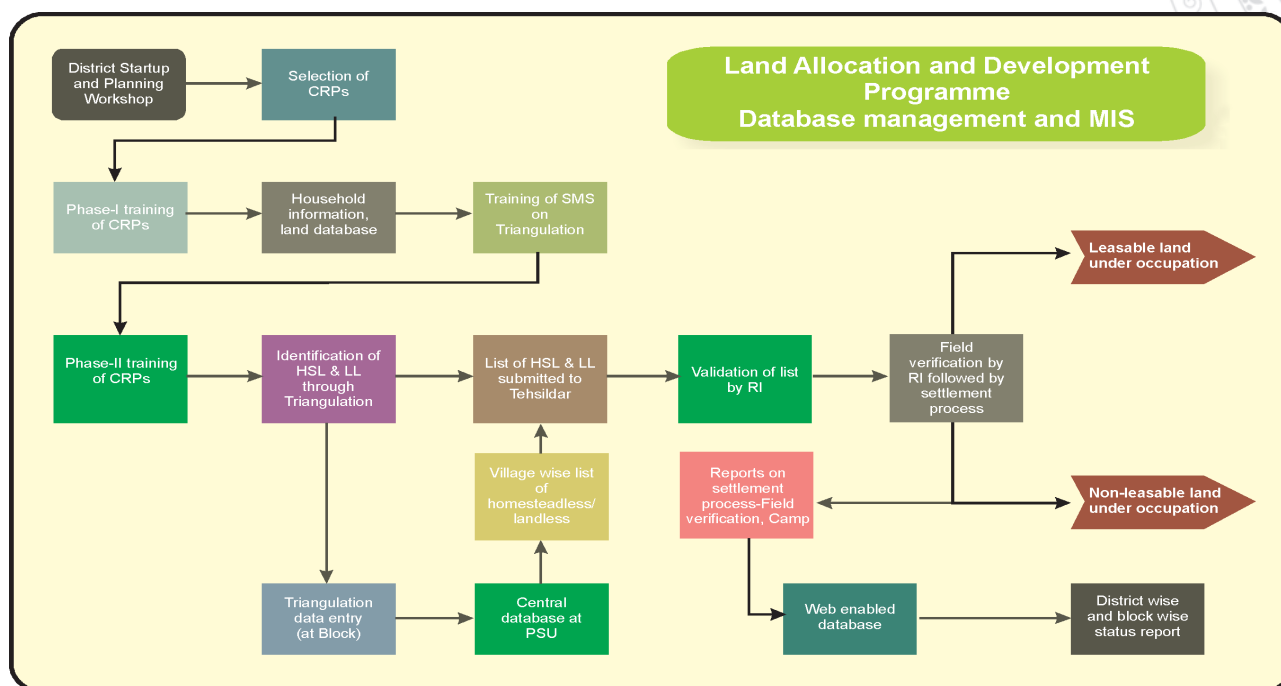
Land database and MIS

In the land allocation process, data related to households and land holding status is collected from various sources and collated at different stages to finally identify the homesteadless/landless households. This list forms the basis of subsequent steps and revenue procedures so that the identified households are allotted and settled on suitable land. Similarly, information on the status of training of CRPs, completion of triangulation process, identification of homestead less/landless, field verification, camp court and other procedures and finally grant of *patta*, etc. need to be transmitted from the operational districts to the central management unit at regular intervals. This flow of information helps in tracking and monitoring of progress which provides strategic inputs and support for smooth operations of the land allocation programme. The information flow is centrally managed and linked to a central database.

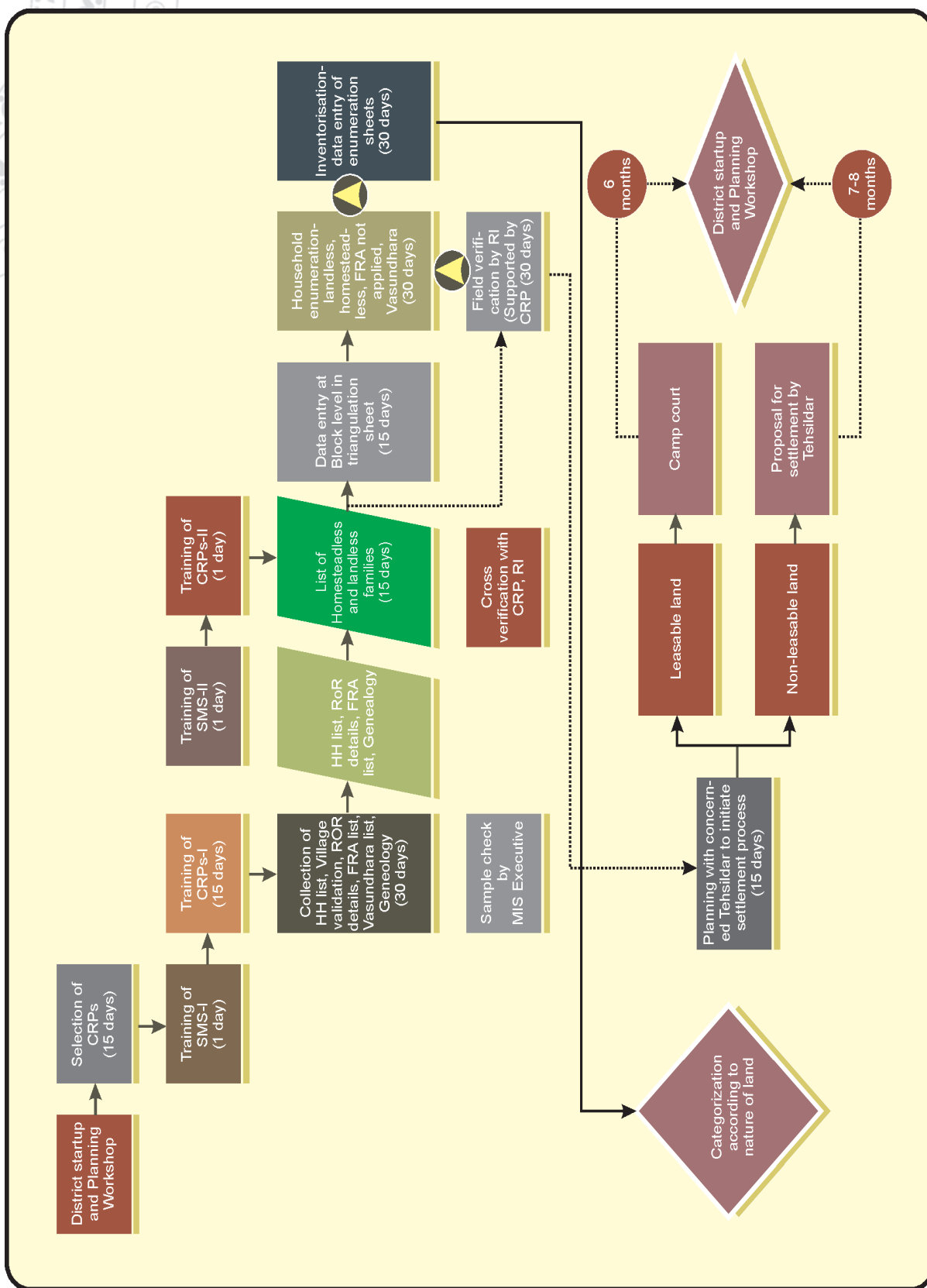
The following table illustrates the flow of information at different stages of the land allocation / settlement process:

Sl.	Event / Activity	Content of information	Name of the Report	Remark
1	Selection of CRPs	Name of CRPs selected in each block along with the assigned villages, educational qualification, contact details	List of CRPs	List of selected CRPs is intimated to Project Support Unit(in case of OTELP) and circulated with concerned Tahasildars
2	Training of CRPs (Phase I)	Dates of Training, No. of participants, Training venue, Facilitators, Training report and action points	Training completion report	Phase I and II training of CRPs
3	Collection of household and land holding details	Village wise details of validated households, land holding status of each household, list of Vasundhara, FRA allottees	Village wise household list (along with land holding details)	The village wise information is compiled at block level
4	Triangulation for identification of homestead less and landless households	Household wise list for each village specifying land holding status of each household either as homesteadless and/or landless	Triangulation data – village wise list of homesteadless and/or landless along with block wise abstract	Village wise list of identified homesteadless / landless is shared with concerned <i>Tahasildar</i> and RI. Complied report is send to PSU (in case of OTELP)

Sl.	Event / Activity	Content of information	Report Name	Remark
5	Field verification	Villages covered, no. of households verified, extent and type of land, action points, participants, photographs	Field verification report (for each village)	CRPs work closely with Revenue Inspector and support during field verification process to validate the <i>kissam</i> and condition of land for settlement
6	Camp court	Villages covered, no. of cases heard, type and extent of land, action points, participants, photographs	Camp court report - on completion of field verification of each village	Camp court is a critical step before final settlement of land in favour of the homesteadless and landless
7	<i>Patta</i> distribution	Villages covered, no. of households granted <i>patta</i> , participants, photographs	<i>Patta</i> distribution report - on organisation of <i>patta</i> distribution for each village	List of families allotted land is the final outcome of the land allocation process
8	Monitoring and Review meetings	Discussion points, participants, decisions and action points	Meeting minutes and action points	Periodic review and planning with Block and District Administration



Step by step allocation process (projected timeline)



Monitoring and Review

Level	Periodicity	Responsibility	Activities monitored
Village	Weekly	Facilitating Agency	The work of the CRP is constantly monitored by the field staff of facilitating agency. The staff ensures proper co-ordination between the CRP and Revenue officials. The data collected by CRPs is verified and reviewed by the facilitating agency before sharing with Revenue officials.
Revenue Inspector Circle	Fortnightly	Revenue Inspector	The village wise information (household list and land database) collected by the CRPs is reviewed by the Revenue Inspector. The Revenue Inspector provides timely input and suggestions to the CRP for collection of the desired information from all villages.
Block / Tahasil	Monthly	OTELP / Facilitating agency	OTELP / Facilitating agency reviews progress of assigned activities as well as other related issues every month and suggests inputs for timely completion of tasks in land allocation programme. Progress of tasks for each village completed by the CRP is reviewed in the monthly meeting.
District	Monthly	Nodal Officer (Sub-Collector/PA-ITDA/PO-PME)	District nodal officer reviews the progress of allocation process in a monthly review meeting. The village wise status is discussed and necessary action points prepared to accomplish the land allocation work in a stipulated time period.
Tahasil	Time-to-time	<i>Tahasildar</i>	Once the list of homesteadless and landless is prepared, a planning-cum-coordination meeting (chaired by <i>Tahasildar</i>) is held at the <i>Tahasil</i> level. In the meeting, concerned Revenue Inspectors, CRPs and staff of facilitating agency finalise the village wise list of homesteadless and landless and prepare action plan for field verification in the assigned villages. The <i>Tahasildar</i> gives necessary instruction to Revenue Inspector to initiate the settlement process.
District	Monthly	District Collector	<i>Tahasil</i> wise status of land allocation programme is discussed in the district revenue meeting and reviewed by the District Collector. Basing on the suggestions and feedback received, action plan is prepared by respective <i>Tahasildars</i> for achievement of key milestones in the land allocation programme.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Ac	: Acre
APL	: Above Poverty Line
ARI	: Assistant Revenue Inspector
ATMA	: Agricultural Technology Management Agency
AWC	: Anganwadi Centre
BPL	: Below Poverty Line
CRP	: Community Resource Person
Dept.	: Department
FNGO	: Facilitating Non-Government Organisation
FRA	: Forest Rights Act
Govt.	: Government
GP	: <i>Gram Panchayat</i>
HH	: Household
IAY	: Indira Awas Yojana
IAS	: Indian Administrative Service
ICDS	: Integrated Child Development Services
IFS	: Indian Forest Service
ITDA	: Integrated Tribal Development Agency
KVK	: Krishi Vigyan Kendra
MGNREGS	: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MIS	: Management Information System
NGO	: Non-Government Organisation
OAS	: Odisha Administrative Service
OGLS	: Odisha Government Land Settlement
OPLE	: Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment
OTELP	: Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme
PO (PME)	: Programme Officer (Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation)
PRI	: Panchayati Raj Institution
PSU	: Programme Support Unit
RDC	: Revenue Divisional Commissioner
RDI	: Rural Development Institute
RI	: Revenue Inspector
RoR	: Record of Rights
SDLC	: Sub Divisional Level Committee
SMS	: Subject Matter Specialist
VLW	: Village Level Worker

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- 2) Is the document a comfortable length to read? (Y/N)
- 3) If no, would you prefer (more details, data/less details, data)
- 4) Do you find the information in the document relevant to your work?

■ If yes, how would you use this information for your work? (use extra sheets if required)

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■ If no, give reasons why?

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What impact, if any, does this information have on:

You

Your organisation.....

Your colleagues.....

What are the main lessons you have learnt from information contained in this document?

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- 5) Would you like to share any study/research similar to the information in this document?
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.....

.....

- 7) Do you know anyone else who might benefit from receiving our publications?

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The **Rural Development Institute (RDI)** is a trust registered in India and partners with governments and local organisations to ensure that India's poorest rural families have secure rights over the land they till. It recognises that legal rights to land are the foundation for prosperity and opportunity.

In India, the RDI Trust works closely with national and state governments on securing land for the landless. It has presence in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha and West Bengal where it works with state and local governments on projects that demonstrate the power land rights have in changing people's lives and providing them a sustainable road out of poverty.

RDI believes that traditional poverty alleviation efforts will largely bypass rural families, unless they obtain land rights. With land as a foundation, the rural poor can use building blocks of education, healthcare, clean water and access to credit on a long-term basis and work towards sustaining poverty alleviation. Secure land rights have the potential to unleash wealth, food security, investment capital, consumption power and entrepreneurial energy.

Although Government of India and the State governments are making progress, landlessness remains the greatest predictor of poverty in India and is more closely linked with poverty than low caste or illiteracy.

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