Tribals get platform to sell produce hassle-free

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Now, tribals can sell forest produces without any fear that market will earn handsomely for their produce. The reason is the state government has abolished redundant provision of Rajasthan Forest (produce transit) 1957 Rules amending in favour of the tribals living in remote and dense forests.

The existed section 4 of the aforesaid rules makes tribals to seek transport permission (TP) from the district headquarters office of forest department on transiting the production of the corpos harvested in the forest areas.

The fee of TP was just Rs 1. But, complicated process of applying TP always kept away the uneducated tribals. That’s why only three TP have been issued officially on paper in Udaipur region since 1957.

According to the provision, if tribal is found selling produce without TP then he would be slapped with a penalty of 10 times of produce and six months imprisonment. The fear of harsh punishment prompted the tribals so far to sell their produce on lower prices to the businessmen or middlemen. Also the tribals were forced to share a part of their earning with the forest officials when they manage to sale the produces with traders.

Doing away with harsh practices

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The exploitation of the tribals due to the impractical rule was noticed by the chief minister Vasundhara Raje last year in Udaipur during Sarkar Apeke Dwar (government at your door step). Hence, Raje approved amendment in the rule giving relief to the tribal.

Now the tribals do not need to seek TP from the forest department.

They just have to intimate to the gram panchayat, seek their consent and later they can sale the produces in the market. Mostly the produces the tribals harvest are fruits of Indian Ebony tree, seeds of Physic Nut, Wild Senna, flowers of Indian gooseberry tree etc.