

CHAPTER 12

RESEARCH, INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA

12.1 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs recognizes the need for continued research on cultural, anthropological, socio economic and related issues concerning the tribals. While such researches are currently undertaken by many organizations, such as the Anthropological Survey of India, Universities and other specialized institutions, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs also considers it important to support research studies in terms of knowledge advocacy. The scheme of research of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has, three components namely:

- (i) Grants to Tribal Research Institutes.
- (ii) Centres of Excellence.

- (iii) Supporting projects of all India or inter State nature. The grant is provided on 100% basis to institutes, organizations and universities for conducting research, evaluation studies, holding seminars/workshops and for publication of literature relating to tribal issues.

Grants-in-aid to Tribal Research Institutes

12.2 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up in various States namely; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya



Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs inaugurating 'वनज-2015' National Tribal Festival at Central Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi



Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs inaugurating 'वनज-2015' National Tribal Festival at Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi.

Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and in the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Presently the TRI at Hyderabad is catering to both the States Andhra and Telangana. The TRI of the undivided Andhra Pradesh has gone to Telangana and a new TRI is proposed to be set up at Vishakhapatnam by Government of Andhra Pradesh with financial support from the Ministry.

12.3 These Institutes are engaged in the work of providing planning inputs to the State Governments, conducting research and evaluation studies, collection of data, identify challenges in the field of socio-economic development of tribals and understanding promoting and preserving their culture. Training and capacity building of stakeholders, and knowledge

advocacy that would help formulate evidence based policy and planning are also the thrust are of the scheme. Conducting training, seminars and workshops, documentation of customary laws; setting up of tribal museum for exhibiting tribal artifacts, and other related activities.

12.4 As part of the research activities of the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) the Ministry also supports construction of tribal museums within the premises of the TRIs to preserve the tribal art, craft and culture.

12.5 During the year 2013-14, the scheme has been revised making it a Central Sector Scheme with 100% grant from the Central Government for identified activities only.

12.6 The TRIs would function;

- (a) As body of knowledge and research
- (b) Support evidence based policy, planning and legislations
- (c) Undertake capacity building of tribal people and personnel and institution associated with tribal affairs and
- (d) Would be responsible for dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

As per the revised scheme, organizing 'Exchange of visits by tribals', 'Organization of tribal festivals' and 'National Tribal Awards' have been clubbed together under the activities of TRI.

12.7 The Budget allocation for 2014-15 was Rs.8.50crore against which Rs. 8.01crore has been released as on 31.12.2014.

Centres of Excellence (CoEs)

12.8 Research Institutes and Organizations have been receiving financial support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for carrying out short-term research and extension work among tribal communities in the country. In order to continue the research studies on regular basis, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has identified, through rigorous selection process, and recognized the following institutes/ organizations as Centres of Excellence to involve them for working out a long term and policy oriented research studies for the development of tribals of the country:

- (a) National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad.
- (b) BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune.
- (c) Bhasha Research & Documentation Centre, Vadodra.
- (d) Visva-Bharati, Shantiniketan, West Bengal

12.9 The broad objectives of the Scheme is to

enhance and strengthen the institutional resource capabilities of various NGOs, Research Institutes and University Departments to conduct qualitative, action oriented and policy research on tribal communities. The Institutes/Organizations declared as Centres of Excellence are provided financial support in the form of grants-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The budget allocation for 2014-15 is Rs.334.00 lakh against which Rs. 154.44 lakh has been sanctioned to these CoEs as on 31.12.2014.

Supporting Projects of All-India or Inter-State nature

12.10 This scheme is for dissemination of knowledge about tribal issues, and developmental schemes/works through study, seminars/workshops and publication of tribal literature. Under the scheme financial support is extended to Non-Governmental Organizations/ Institutions/ Universities on 100% basis for following:

- i.) Research and Evaluation studies,
- ii.) Workshops/Seminars helpful in orienting developmental programmes for the Scheduled Tribes and disseminating knowledge and experience concerning tribal people and their areas, and
- iii.) Publication of literature on tribal development.

12.11 For Research studies, assistance is provided to the Universities/ Institutions/ Non-Governmental Organizations to carry out research/evaluation studies. There is no ceiling on cost of the research study but overall cost shall be in keeping with the ceiling applied by institutions like the UGC. Under the scheme, 100% financial assistance are made available by the Ministry in two installments of 70% and 30% of the sanctioned amount.

12.12 Scrutiny and Sanction: The project/ proposals are scrutinized and selection is made by Research Advisory Committee, consisting of eminent persons in the field of tribal affairs/ development, set up under the chairmanship of a Joint Secretary level officer of Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

12.13 Quantum of Assistance for seminar/workshop: The grant is provided to institutions/ Non Governmental Organizations on the following pattern:

Duration of seminar/workshop Amount in Rs.

For one day : 50,000/-

For two days : 75,000/-

For three days (in exceptional cases where field tour is essential) : 1,00,000/-

12.14 To encourage eminent authors/writers/scholars to write on or translate good books on tribal development, including on non-written tribal folklores, the Ministry provides grants, preferably to an institution to which such persons are affiliated, up to Rs. 30,000/- for a single project/book. Monitoring & Evaluation Studies.

12.15 During the financial year 2014-15, the budget outlay was Rs. 50.00 lakh.

Information and Mass Media

12.16 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs disseminates information through media on different aspects of tribal life, including their culture, education, socio-economic development and welfare schemes of the Ministry. The Ministry also releases advertisements in newspapers from time to time highlighting the schemes/programmes implemented for the benefits of Scheduled Tribes. An effective and efficient public service delivery system has been created through use of social media, printing media

and public awareness for availing of the benefits of the schemes/programmes of the Ministry.

12.17 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs organized the National Tribal Festival 'VANAJ' in New Delhi from 13th to 18th February, 2015. It was organized at three venues which included the Central Park and the BKS Marg at Connaught Place and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi. The festival provided glimpses of rich cultural heritage of tribal people across the country through unique forms of folk dances, songs and other traditional practices and focused on developing sense of appreciation of the cultural diversity of the country amongst the citizen.

More than 900 artists and performers from the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal participated in traditional dance and music programmes of the State concerned. The other highlights of the Festival included State specific tribal huts, exhibition of books, art and crafts, tribal cuisine, award winning photographs and demonstration of traditional skill in painting, craft and traditional medical practices. Screening of documentary films and conducting seminars on subject relevant to tribal issues were other attractions of the six days event.

The event would be organized every year on 2nd Friday to 3rd Wednesday in February.



'वनज-2015' National Tribal Festival - Glimpses of Art & Craft exhibition at Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi.