



**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU**  
 ( Research Unit )  
 Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
 Government of India



**Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**  
 (Ministry of Tribal Affairs)

November 17, 2021

*“Brothers and Sisters, when we talk about the history of freedom struggle of our country, some persons are talked about a lot, some are excessively mentioned but the contribution made by the people living in jungles, the tribals, in the freedom struggle was unmatched. We hear the name of Birsa Munda but perhaps there would be no tribal dominated district where the tribals would not have fought and given sacrifice since 1857 to the time we got freedom. They proved through their sacrifice what is freedom, what is struggle against servitude. But our forthcoming generations are not much aware of this history. The government desires and plans that in the coming days, in the states where these freedom fighters, who were tribals, who lived in jungles and fought against Britishers, permanent museums will be built, dedicated to the memory of the brave tribal freedom fighters, so that coming generations could be able to know about their sacrifices for the country.”*

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi  
 (On the 70th Independence Day – August 15, 2016)

**Introduction**

India is a unique country in the world with more than 700 tribal communities. Its strength lies in its rich cultural diversity. The tribal communities have enriched the country’s cultural heritage through their exquisite art and craft. Recognizing the important role played by the tribal communities in nation-building, our Constitution has made special provisions for the protection of tribal culture and development of Scheduled Tribes.

The entire forest ecosystem, including water bodies, is the mainstay of the tribal economy. The British disrupted this and created a class of zamindars (landlords) and gave them rights over land in tribal territories. This reduced the tribals to mere tenants in their own lands. This exploitation fuelled the resentment which led to violent eruptions in the tribal revolutionary movements.

These movements threw up inspirational leaders. Few leaders among them were Tilka Majhi, Tikendrajit Singh, Veer Surendra Sai, Telanga Kharia, Veer Narayan Singh, Sidhu, Kanu Murmu, Rupchand Konwar and Laxman Naik.

One of the most charismatic was Birsa Munda, from the Munda community in present-day Jharkhand. He organised and led the tribal movement, giving a call for *Ulgulan* (revolt) to the tribals. The young Birsa also wanted to reform tribal society and urged it to shun superstition

and witchcraft. Such was his charisma that tribal communities referred to him as “*Bhagwan*”.<sup>1</sup>

### **About ‘Bhagwan’ Birsa Munda**

Born on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1875, in Ulihatu village of a present-day Jharkhand, Birsa spent his childhood in abject poverty in a tribal Munda family. This was the time when exploitative British Raj started penetrating into the deep jungles of Central and Eastern India, disrupting the tribals who had been living in harmony with nature and natural resources. The Britishers introduced a feudal *Jamindari* system in Chhota Nagpur region, destroying tribal *Khuntkatti* agrarian system. The Raj brought in the outsiders - moneylenders and contractors, as well as feudal landlords, which aided the British in exploitation of tribals.

It all culminated into Birsa Munda taking up the cause of Adivasis. He worked for refining and reforming the religious practices, discouraged many superstitious rites, brought in new tenets, new prayers, reformed many habits, and worked for restoring and reviving the tribal pride. Birsa impressed upon the adiwasis about “*Sirmare firun raja jai*” or ‘victory to the ancestral king’ thus invoking sovereignty of the tribals’ ancestral autonomous control over the land. Birsa became a mass leader, and began to be considered as a *Bhagwan* and *Dharati Aba* by his followers.

Birsa Munda had clearly identified that the British colonial rule was the root cause of all the problems and oppressions. It was amply clear to him that “*Abua raj setar jana, maharani raj tundu jana (meaning: Let the Kingdom of the Queen be ended and our kingdom be established)*”. Bhagwan Birsa ignited the spark in the minds of the masses. The Mundas, Oraons, other adivasis and non-adivasis responded to his call and joined ‘*Ulgulan*’ against the colonial masters and the exploitative *dikus* under the leadership of Birsa, for their social, economic, political and cultural emancipation. Soon he was captured by British police and lodged in jail, where he died in captivity on 09 June 1900.

But *Bhagwan* Birsa Munda’s spirited struggle did not go in vain. It compelled the British Raj to take cognisance of plight and exploitation of tribals, and brought in ‘Chhota Nagpur Tenancy Act of 1908’ for protection of Adivasis. This important act restricted the transfer of tribal land to non-tribals, giving huge relief for the tribals, and became a landmark legislation for protection of tribal rights.

### **Declaration of November 15 as ‘[Janjatiya Gaurav Divas](#)’**

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on 10<sup>th</sup> November approved declaration of November 15 as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas dedicated to the memory of brave tribal freedom fighters so that coming generations could know about their sacrifices about the country.<sup>2</sup>

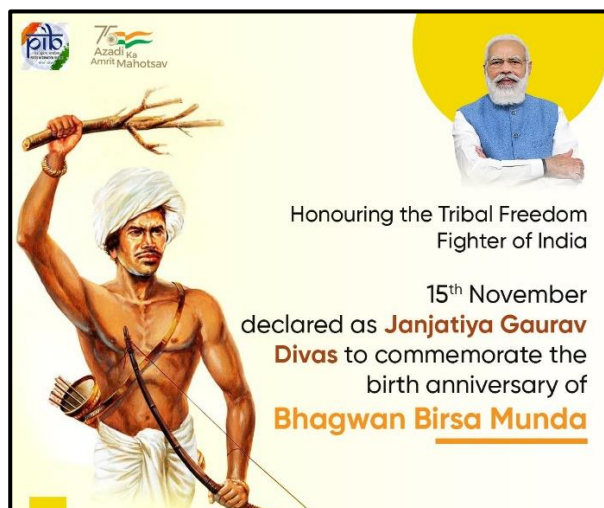
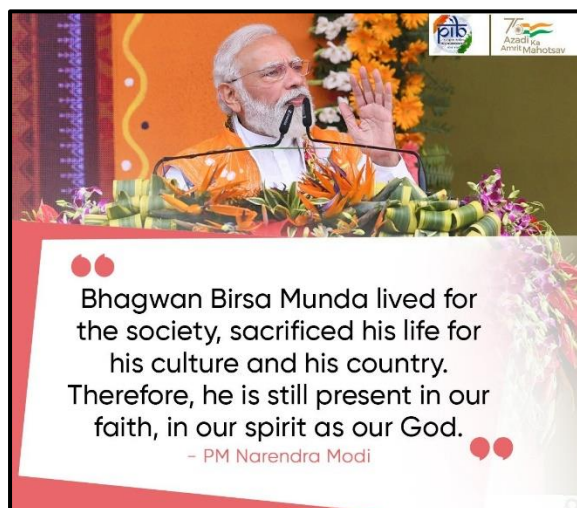
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/recognising-the-role-of-tribal-communities-in-indian-independence-101636898590636.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1770508>

The declaration acknowledges the glorious history and cultural heritage of tribal communities. The day will be celebrated every year and would recognize the efforts of the tribals for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of Indian values of valour, hospitality and national pride.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been assigned an **Iconic Week** starting from 15-22 November 2021 to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its tribal people, culture and achievements. For more details - [Click here](#).








### Scheduled tribes – At a glance

- The population of Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country, as per Census 2011 is 10.45 Crore. STs constitute 8.6 per cent of the country's total population and 11.3 percent of the total rural population.
- Numerically, Madhya Pradesh has the largest ST population (1.5 Crore), followed by Maharashtra (1.0 Crore), Odisha (0.9 Crore), and Rajasthan (0.9 Crore).
- More than two-thirds of the ST population lives in the seven states of MP, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- Almost 90 per cent of the tribal population of the country lives in rural areas.
- The tribal population of the country continues to live predominantly in hilly and forest areas and together accounts for almost 60 per cent of the forest cover in the country.
- **Sex ratio** in respect of STs is 990, which is higher than national average of 943.
- **Child sex ratio** in respect of STs in 0-6 age group has declined from 972 in 2001 to 957 in 2011. However, ST child sex ratio is higher as compared to child sex ratio for general population at 914 girls to 1000 boys.
- As per Census figures, **literacy rate for STs** in India improved from 47.1 per cent in 2001 to 59 per cent in 2011.

For more information – [Click Here](#)

## Major Initiatives taken by the Govt. of India for development of Tribals




### 1. Revamping of [Eklavya Model Residential Schools](#)

	2013	2021
 Sanctioned Schools	167 Schools	639 Schools
 Functional Schools	119 Schools	367 Schools
 Recurring Cost	₹. 42,000.00 per student per annum	₹. 1,09,000.00 per student per annum
 Capital Cost	₹. 12.00 crore plain ₹. 16.00 crore hilly/LWE/NE	₹. 37.80* crore plain ₹. 48.00* crore hilly/LWE/NE
 CBSE Affiliation	69 Schools	230 Schools

#### Highlights:

- Started in 1997-98 to impart quality education to ST children. Caters to 480 students from standard 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Programme revamped in 2018-19
- Target of 740 schools by 2024
- National Education Society for Tribal Students established.
- Concept of Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools introduced
- Centre of Excellence for Sports to be setup
- Partnerships with [NCERT](#), [NIEPA](#), Microsoft India, [MSDE](#), [KVIC](#) among others.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid foundation stone for construction of [50 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools \(EMRSs\)](#) in 27 districts of seven states and one UT through virtual mode from Bhopal on November 15, 2021.

### 2. Scholarships

	2013	2021
 Budget Outlay	₹. 978.00 crore	₹. 2546.00 crore
 Students Benefitted	31,24,231	32,08,154
 Mode of implementation	Offline- Physical	Fully Online

#### Schemes Covered:

- [Pre/Post Matric; National Fellowship & Scholarship; National Overseas Scholarship](#)

#### Highlights:

- 30 lakh students covered under scholarship schemes entailing an annual expenditure of Rs 2500 crores.

- Integration of State's Portal of Pre-matric and Post-matric Schemes with DBT Tribal Portal and DBT Bharat Portal
- Online student verification process- Integration of 331 Universities.
- Digi locker for mandatory Certificate verification.
- Tribal Talent Pool, with [Tribal Research Institute](#) (TRI) and [Indian Institute of Public Administration \(IIPA\) – Centre of Excellence](#).
- Reduction in scholarship release time
- No pending arrears and advance up to 50 per cent given to States
- Data available on [performance dashboard](#) and [Prayas Dashboard](#)

**PM Modi's Vision For Development Of Tribal Children**

- Target to open 740 schools by 2024
- Introduced Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools
- National Education Society for Tribal Students established
- Plan underway to set up Centre of Excellence for Sports
- 30 lakh students covered under scholarship schemes

**UNPRECEDENTED TRIBAL EMPOWERMENT**

**Eklavya Model Residential Schools: Ensuring Quality Education to Tribal Students**

- Introduced to impart quality education to ST children, programme revamped in 2018-2019
- Introduced the concept of Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools
- Almost 3X increase in sanction of funds from 2013-14 to 2021-22
- Over 2X growth in functional schools from 2013-14 to 2021-22
- Target to launch 740 Eklavya Schools by 2024, benefitting 3.5 lakh tribal students
- Partnerships with NCERT, NIEPA, Microsoft India

### 3. Grants to States



- [Grants under Article 275 \(1\)](#) of the Constitution
- [Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme](#) (SCA to TSS)
- Scheme for [Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups](#) (PVTGS).

**3211** projects sanctioned across 14 sectors (1014 – Education, 729 – Livelihood, 303 – Health etc.) during last 3 years

**Project Appraisal Committee** constituted for appraisal of annual plans of State Govts.

**Adigrams Portal** – a comprehensive web-based MIS Portal for end-to-end monitoring of the projects sanctioned under the Schemes.

#### 4. Strengthening Livelihoods

	2013	2021
 <b>Budget Outlay</b>	₹. 217.30 crore	₹. 355.00 crore

#### Highlights:

- Cluster of 2274 [Van Dhan Vikas Kendra](#) (VDVKs) through 37,872 Self-help groups in 25 States.
- 141 outlets across the country including Airports
- Tie-up with Amazon, FlipKart, Snapdeal and [Government e-Marketplace](#) (GeM)




#### Pradhan Mantri Jan Jatiye Vikas Mission (PMJVM)


- Merger of two existing Central Sector Schemes.
  - Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP
  - Institutional support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce.
- Ensure round-the-year income generating opportunities for tribals by undertaking non-MFP activities based on Agriculture/ Floriculture/ Horticulture/ Medicinal & Aromatic plants / others.
- [TRIFED](#) would be central nodal implementing agency

#### Venture Capital Fund for STs

- Corpus of ₹ 50 crore, with a provision of further enhancement of corpus as per decision of the Government
- [National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation](#) (NSTFDC) would be central nodal implementing agency

#### 5. Preservation & Promotion of Tribal Culture and Heritage

	2013	2021
 <b>Sanctioned TRIs</b>	17 Tribal Research Institutes	27 Tribal Research Institutes
 <b>Repository of Research work</b>	Manual	Online
 <b>Monitoring System</b>	Offline based, physical reporting etc.	Real-time, online reports, dashboard, etc.



**Promoting Tribal Culture, Handicraft & Livelihood**

- National Tribal Research Institute being set up
- Online monitoring of progress of projects through dedicated portal
- Ten Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums sanctioned
- 141 outlets across country to promote tribal products
- Income generating opportunities based on agriculture medicinal and aromatic plants

#### Highlights:

- Major revamping of Tribal Research Institutes initiated through IIPA.
- Project monitoring, fund release, de-duplication, inter-state coordination.

- Online monitoring of progress of projects through dedicated portal.
- National Tribal Research Institute being setup.

### Digital Governance Initiatives

- [National Tribal Research Portal](#) - End-to-end monitoring of TRIs
- [Adi-Prashikshan](#) - Repository of training programmes
- [Adi-Prasaran](#) - Media, News, Success Stories etc.
- [Tribal Repository](#) - Photos, Videos, Research Studies, etc.

## 6. Museums for Tribal Freedom Fighters



### Highlights:

- 10 Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museums sanctioned in States where tribals lived, struggled against the Britishers and refused to bow down.
- These museums are going to be centers of tourist attraction due to their location; architecture and audio-video displays being prepared and will play an important role in preserving and promoting tribal culture, handicraft, and tribal art.




## 7. Support to Voluntary Organizations

	2013	2021
Budget Outlay	Rs. 83.01 crore	Rs. 110.00 crore
Organizations Supported	130	216
Grant Handling System	Completely Manual	Fully Online

### Highlights:

- End-to-end integration through a [dedicated Portal \(NGO Grants\)](#) – States, Districts, NGOs and MoTA
- Inviting of application, processing, and fund release through Portal
- Mandatory registration with [NGO Darpan Portal](#) of NITI Aayog
- Three-level monitoring system built in the portal
- Fund flow monitored through ([PFMS](#)) - EAT module
- Online Communication and Grievance mechanism
- Selection and grading of NGOs through independent agency
- NITI Aayog has asked other ministries to follow the systems developed by MoTA for NGO grants




### 8. Scheduled Tribe Component – Allocation for welfare of Tribals

	2013	2021
 Outlay	₹. 21525.36 crore	₹. 78256.31 crore
 Ministries Covered	24	41
 Monitoring	Erstwhile Planning Commission	Ministry of Tribal Affairs

### Highlights:

- Monitoring of STC entrusted to MoTA in 2018 based on framework of NITI Aayog.
- A dedicated portal developed for monitoring of releases under STC by Central Ministries / Department – linked to PFMS.
- Advocacy being done with individual ministries to ensure effective allocation and utilization of funds.
- Detailed analysis of 300 schemes under STC done to identify schemes – relevant and notional.

### 9. Forest Rights Act

	2013	2021
 Individual Titles	14,11,673	19,24,417
 Community Titles	23,440	77,502
 Land vested (in ha)	22,35,157.64	52,80,901.98

**Highlights:**

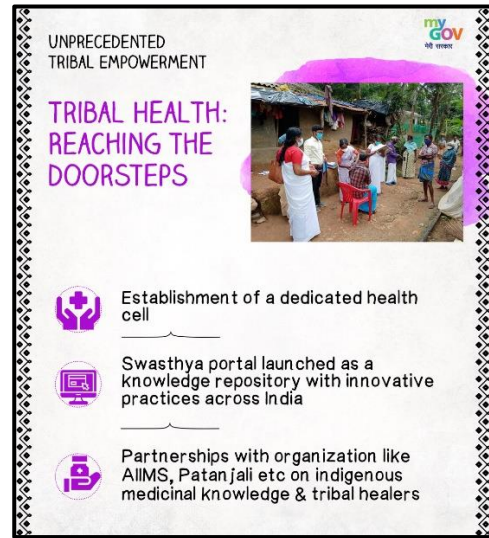
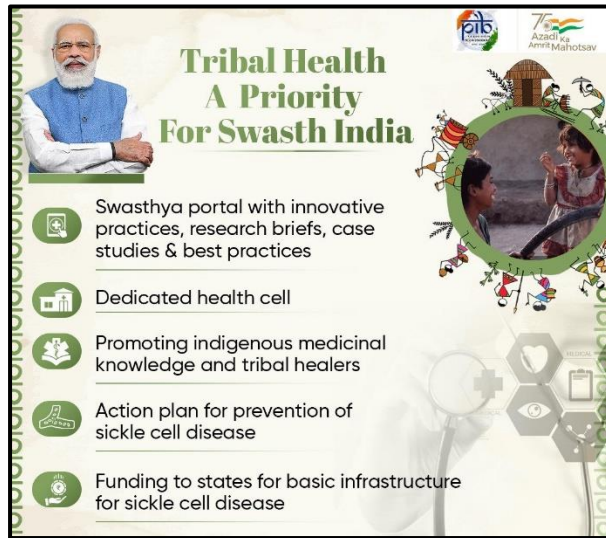
- Training modules developed and capacity building programs undertaken
- Exclusive trainings for ST public representatives
- Collaborated with [MoEFCC](#) and [MoPR](#) to strengthen institutional efforts for effective implementation
- Streamlined various policy and legal frameworks to ensure unhindered access to forest resources
- Expert Committee constituted to developed Guidelines for Conservation of Forest Resources and Seasonal Resource access of Nomadic and Pastoralist Communities

**10. Capacity Building of ST PRI (Panchayati Raj Institutions) Members****Highlights:**

- National Level Capacity Building programme launched for elected representatives to PRIs from among STs.
- Capacity building of PRI representatives, who directly participate in the development initiatives at local government level will help in bridging the development gaps among communities and regions.
- This will also help in effective and better implementation of various developmental and welfare programmes and substantially improving expected outcomes.
- A Capacity Building programme module has also been developed and is being translated in local languages.

**11. Tribal Health – reaching the doorsteps****Highlights:**

- [Swasthya \(National Tribal Health\) Portal](#) launched as a knowledge repository with innovative practices, research briefs, case studies and best practices collected from different parts of India.
- Dashboard presenting a comprehensive data repository, collating data from different sources for 177 high priority tribal districts.
- District Factsheets for 177 tribal districts developed (NFHS survey)
- Partnership with organization like AIIMS, Patanjali, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, NIPER, Pravara Institute and TRIs on indigenous medicinal knowledge and tribal healers.
- Dedicated health cell established as recommended by High Level Committee



## 12. Sickle Cell Anaemia

### Highlights:

- 11,654,261 persons screened and about 8.75 per cent (9,96,368) tested positive
- Funding for basic infrastructure to states for Sickle Cell disease
- Permanent Disability Certificate for more than 80 per cent disability and valid for three years.
- Training and Awareness program through partner organisations
- Training modules developed by renowned hematologist in partnership with Sir Gangaram Hospital
- Pilot project given to “INFOMED” Gujarat for controlling the SCM through Yoga and meditation.
- Comprehensive action plan for prevention of sickle cell being prepared in consultation with MoHFW and DST.
- Sickle Cell support corner

## 13. Emphasis on Digital Governance

### Highlights:

- 11 schemes digitalized end-to-end in the last two years through 20 web portals
- Data of schemes and initiatives publicly available on performance Dashboard
- Eight Initiatives on [Prayas PMO dashboard](#)
- Dedicated portal for end-to-end monitoring of physical and financial progress of projects
- Paperless office: Shift from Physical file to Paperless
- Data-based monitoring and analytics
- Online Communication with States - Grievance Redressal System - in each Portal
- 21 Compliance burden reduced

## References:

- **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas PIB Video link:**  
[https://twitter.com/MIB\\_India/status/1460093420655898627?s=20](https://twitter.com/MIB_India/status/1460093420655898627?s=20)
- **Articles:**
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    - i) <https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/recognising-the-role-of-tribal-communities-in-indian-independence-101636898590636.html>
    - ii) <https://www.jagran.com/jharkhand/ranchi-tribal-pride-day-nation-committed-to-tribal-pride-arjun-munda-22205527.html>
  2. Article by Shri L Murugan, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting
    - i) <https://indianexpress.com/profile/columnist/l-murugan/>
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- **PIB Press Releases on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**
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- **PIB & MIB Tweets on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**
  1. [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_India/status/1460099846426095619?s=20](https://twitter.com/PIB_India/status/1460099846426095619?s=20)
  2. [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_India/status/1460119208558141447?s=20](https://twitter.com/PIB_India/status/1460119208558141447?s=20)
  3. [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_India/status/1460121238269952003?s=20](https://twitter.com/PIB_India/status/1460121238269952003?s=20)
  4. [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_India/status/1460150880666222595?s=20](https://twitter.com/PIB_India/status/1460150880666222595?s=20)
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  2. <https://twitter.com/redukasinghbjp/status/1460110617805668353?s=20>
  3. [https://twitter.com/Bishweswar\\_Tudu/status/1460126034997645314?s=20](https://twitter.com/Bishweswar_Tudu/status/1460126034997645314?s=20)
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  15. <https://twitter.com/TribalAffairsIn/status/1460149577386921988?s=20>
- **Other Useful links:**
  1. Tribes of India: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqtVCj5iilH6-TRHKoFWItNkAHqjXFDpp>
  2. Tribal Leaders: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqtVCj5iilH7dnBbqHgb3yr88Tir3SqCj>

- **PIB Youtube Links:**

1. Press Conference by Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ve2sbUk5Vc4>
2. PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Bhagwaan Birsa Munda Museum in Ranchi, Jharkhand: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKBw1ENmLXU>
3. PM Narendra Modi takes part in Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas Mahasammelan in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntVfah3-dlg>

AG/AKP