



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



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Eklavya Model Residential Schools

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs)

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#### **Q1. What are Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)?**

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) were introduced in the year 1997-98 to impart quality education to Scheduled Tribe children in remote areas in order to enable them to avail of opportunities in high and professional educational courses and get employment in various sectors. The schools focus not only on academic education but on the all-round development of the students. Each school has a capacity of 480 students, catering to students from Class VI to XII. EMRSs are set up in States/UTs with grants under [Article 275\(1\) of the Constitution of India](#).<sup>1</sup>

#### **Q2. What are the main objectives of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)?**

The main objectives are as follows:

- Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools (EMDBS) and Centre of Excellence for Sports are being established for ST and Particularly vulnerable tribal group ([PVTG](#)) students in order to provide quality residential schools for the promotion of education and ensure all round development of tribal students in all areas, habitations and diversified environment throughout the country.
- The schools are aimed to provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to ST and PVTG students in tribal dominated areas, along with extra-curricular activities, to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Q3. What is the admission process for students in EMRS?<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup><https://tribal.nic.in/EMRS.aspx>

<sup>2</sup><https://tribal.nic.in/downloads/EMRS/Guidelines/EMRS%20Guidelines%20November%202020.pdf>

<sup>3</sup>ibid

- a) Admission to these schools will be through an appropriate method as per transparent objective criteria to be decided by the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) based on the norms under [Right to Education Act, 2009](#).
- b) The number of seats for boys and girls will be equal.
- c) The total maximum sanctioned strength of a school shall be 480 students.
- d) At the Upper Primary and Secondary level i.e., from class VI to X, every class will have maximum 60 students in two sections of 30 students each.
- e) At the Senior Secondary level (class XI & XII), there will be three sections per class for the three streams in Science, Commerce & Humanities. The maximum sanctioned strength of each section should be 30 students.
- f) Ministry/NESTS will issue separate detailed guidelines for admission of students under Sports quota.
- g) Vacant seats in existing schools shall be filled up on priority by conducting special drives.

#### **Q4. Can students get admission through Sports quota in Eklavya Model Residential Schools?**

Yes, students can get admission through sports quota. There is a provision for Reservation of 20% seats under sports quota for deserving ST students who have excelled in the field of sports.<sup>4</sup>

#### **Q5. Can non-Scheduled Tribe students also get admission in EMRS?**

Yes, apart from Scheduled Tribes, other students can also take admission in EMRS. 10% of the seats of EMRS can be filled up by non-ST candidates (shall not exceed the total strength of 480). Priority shall be given to children of EMRSs/EMDBS staff, children who have lost their parents to Left wing extremism and insurgencies, children of widows, children of divyang parents etc.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Q6. Does EMRS provide co-education?**

Yes, both girls and boys can get admission in EMRS. At present, 41,245 male and 44,455 female students are enrolled in EMRSs across the country.<sup>6</sup> (as on 14.03.2022)

#### **Q7. What facilities are provided in these schools?**

The schools will be compliant with the provisions of the Right to Education Act, 2009 and other norms as prescribed by Central Board of Secondary Education ([CBSE](#)) and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. However, facilities not limited to the following will be ensured, with the facilities in the schools being at par with those in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas as far as possible:

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<sup>4</sup>[doc20217421.pdf \(pib.gov.in\)](#)

<sup>5</sup><https://tribal.nic.in/downloads/EMRS/Guidelines/EMRS%20Guidelines%20November%202020.pdf>

<sup>6</sup><https://tribal.nic.in/EMRS.aspx>

1. State-of-the-art infrastructure (School, Labs, Hostel, Sports Facility, Staff Residences etc.)
2. Study materials, uniforms (including customized climatic clothing for hilly areas)
3. Facilities for preparatory classes for competitive entrance examinations.
4. Remedial classes for weak students.
5. Design of curriculum to impart suitable skills in collaboration with [Ministry of Skill Development](#).
6. Medical facilities including telemedicine and tie up with prominent hospitals in the vicinity.
7. Facilities for diagnostic and remedial medical needs of tribal children (e.g. Sickle Cell Anemia, Tuberculosis, Malaria etc.) will be ensured wherever possible.
8. Special Nutritional requirement and provisions for menstrual hygiene (sanitary pads, incinerator etc.) of girl students.
9. Provision of adequate purified drinking water and sanitation facilities.
10. Scouts, Guides, [National Cadet Corps](#), School bands and related activities.
11. Extra-curricular activities like dance, music, painting, trekking, excursions/ exposure visits, study tours will be a part of the curriculum.
12. Participation in school level competitions in various spheres including academics, sports and co-curricular.
13. Mobile app and robust MIS for reporting/ monitoring.
14. Participation in exchange programmes (National and International).
15. Use of technology-enabled learning tools.

#### **Q8. What is the average strength of classroom in EMRS?**

The total maximum sanctioned strength of a school shall be 480 students. At the Upper Primary and Secondary level i.e., from class VI to X, every class will have maximum of 60 students in two sections of 30 students each. At the Senior Secondary level (class XI & XII), there will be three sections per class for the three streams in Science, Commerce & Humanities. The maximum sanctioned strength of each section should be 30 students.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Q9. What is the recruitment process for teaching staff in EMRS?**

The National Testing Agency (NTA) invites online applications from interested/eligible candidates on behalf of National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, for filling up the teaching posts in the EMRS schools.<sup>8</sup>

#### **Q10. What is the Central Government's expansion plan for Eklavya Model Residential Schools?**

The cabinet has approved total outlay of Rs. 28,920 crore for setting up of 452 new schools, upgradation of existing 211 schools and establishment of 15 Centres of Excellence for Sports for the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Cycle.

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<sup>7</sup><https://tribal.nic.in/downloads/EMRS/Guidelines/EMRS%20Guidelines%20November%202020.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://recruitment.nta.nic.in/WebinfoEMRSRecruitment/Page/Page?PageId=5&LangId=P>

By 2025, it is expected that all 740 schools will become functional. Out of 452 new schools, the States have already provided land in 319 locations across the country and states are being pursued to provide suitable land in remaining locations. <sup>9</sup>.

**Q11. How many Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) are functional across the country at present?**

Currently, **367** EMRS are functional in India<sup>10</sup>. As on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, construction was under progress in 207 schools and in another 50 schools, construction was expected to start shortly. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas had laid foundation of 50 EMRs across the country. By August, 2022, construction in 75 schools is expected to be completed and these will be dedicated to the nation .**<sup>11</sup>

**Q12. Which state has the highest number of EMRSs that are functional?**

Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat are the states where most EMRSs are **functional**<sup>12</sup>.

**Q13. What is the latest budget allocation for EMRS scheme?**

A total amount of Rs 2000 crores has been sanctioned for setting up of EMRSs in the budget for 2022-23. The budget allocation has been in accordance with the approval of the Cabinet vide its decision dated 19.01.2022, wherein Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) with total financial outlay of Rs.28,920 Crore was approved for continuation till 31.03.2026. <sup>13</sup>

**Q14. What amount of expenditure is borne by the government for students and school construction?**

An amount of **Rs.1.09 lakhs per student per annum** is released to meet the recurring expenditure on students including food, uniform, books etc.<sup>14</sup> In Union Budget 2022-23, the Cabinet has enhanced cost of construction for each school from Rs. 20 crore in plain areas and Rs. 24 crore in hilly/NE/LWE areas to Rs. 38 crore and Rs. 48 crore respectively.<sup>15</sup>

**Q15. What are the achievements of EMRS?**

The EMRSs have become an island of excellence in the remote tribal hinterlands attracting large number of tribal children. The focus under the scheme is to ensure holistic development

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<sup>9</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1794891>

<sup>10</sup> Ministry of Tribal Affairs - Government of India

<sup>11</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1794891>

<sup>12</sup> [ListofEMRS030821.pdf \(tribal.nic.in\)](https://tribal.nic.in/ListofEMRS030821.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1794891>

<sup>14</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1737786>

<sup>15</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1794891>

of the students in both academic and extracurricular sphere. Through extra classes, special coaching, educational tours, exposure visits, special camps, sports camps students have been encouraged to dream high and motivated to achieve as well.

**Students have done exceptionally well in academics.** Pass percentage for both 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard is very high, in the range of 80-90%, with a significant percentage of students securing first division in the examinations. Schools have also produced several toppers in the 10th and 12th examinations. A number of students from EMRSs have successfully cleared competitive exams like NEET, IIT-JEE, National Law School etc.<sup>16</sup>

**Students have also excelled high in sports and other co-curricular activities.** In the sports and extra-curricular sphere, EMRS students have brought several laurels. Students of EMRS have found a place in national teams of sports like kabaddi etc, won many national and state level championships and have also won beauty pageants.<sup>17</sup>

#### **Q16. Were online classes being organized for the students in EMRSs during Covid 19 pandemic?**

Yes, online classes were being organized for the students in EMRS during Covid-19 pandemic. Many states have ensured teaching through various technological platforms including YouTube, [WhatsApp](#), [Google Classroom](#), Mobile Apps ([STEP app](#)) etc. On a pilot basis STEP app (learning mobile application) was introduced during this period.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>16</sup><https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2021/jul/doc20217421.pdf>

<sup>17</sup><https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2021/jul/doc20217421.pdf>

<sup>18</sup>A. Report 2020-21 12.2.2020 (tribal.nic.in)