

Press Information Bureau

Government of India

Session I

The Session I was moderated by Shri Sandeep Kavishwar. In this session, Prof. Rami Desai made a presentation on 'Changing the Gaze for Research' on ST Communities and discussed the linkages of the STs from past to present and the need to decolonize the narratives of tribal research to shift the models of tribal research from outsider perspective towards the insider perspectives.

The next speaker, Dr. Phirmi Bodo, JNU stressed on the need of research on the world views of the tribal societies, and preservation of the knowledge and traditions of the STs through proper documentation. She stated that the true well-being of the STs in the course of development need to be coupled with the harmony and co-existence while ensuring the people's livelihood and environment sustainability.

In Session I, the voices from the Communities were presented by Shri Raja Ram Katara who quoted that tribal traditions may guide the world for sustainable development. Further, Shri Roop Narayan Marawi stressed on the identity and self-esteem of the ST and highlighted the issue of Tribal Identity and Conservation of Culture. As the representative of the ST Community Dr. Phirmi Bodo stressed on need to reverse the psychology and do away the anthropological biasness.

Session II

The Session II was moderated by Shri Milind Dandekar, founder of SGITS, Indore. In this session, Prof. Diwakar Minz talked about the need for documentation on oral tradition to rectify the tribal histories and discussed the role of tradition in learning process.

Shri Mahesh Sharma, Padma Shri Awardee talked on the women empowerment, the education system and learning processes in the villages.

Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Chairperson, UGC highlighted to nurture the cognitive ability of the youth, principles of learning and multi-disciplinary approach for holistic education under NEP.

Session III

This session was moderated by Shri Konthang Touthang, Joint Secretary, NCST. In this session, Shri Milind Thatte discussed the rights of STs on land, water and the survival of the ST communities in the villages of India.

Prof. R. Balasubramanyam, Chairperson, CCI shared the views on the violation of rights from Community perspectives, the rights of existence and the need to learn from tribal ethics as diversity in action.

Shri Lakshman Singh Markam discussed the traditional knowledge of the STs and the need to understand the tribal voices that are not much vocal.

Shri Ananta Nayak, Member NCST concluded the first session and talked about the issues that are required to be addressed in research such as the FRA, PESA, Land acquisition, displacement and to contribute on the modification of the Acts in the law of the Country.

About 75 Vice Chancellors from the prominent Universities across the Country, approximately 450 Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Research Students from the Universities participated in the Seminar, eminent Social Workers, alongwith Directors of TRIs and officials from various Central Ministries were also present in the Workshop.