

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1264
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29th JULY, 2026

Digital education framework and tribal heritage preservation

1264. Dr. Sikander Kumar:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has recently launched any portal for tribal arts, culture, languages, and traditional knowledge;
- (b) if so, the core objectives along the steps taken to integrate its UGC-recognized one-year hybrid PG diploma programmes with existing university frameworks;
- (c) whether Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) have been executed with academic or technological institutions to facilitate its execution, along with specific timeline to scale up to targeted roadmap of over 100 courses; and
- (d) the concrete measures being taken to document vulnerable indigenous resources, preserve oral traditions, and build entrepreneurial capacities of tribal communities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

- (a) Yes, the Ministry has recently launched the TribeX portal, a digital initiative designed to preserve, promote, and globally share India's rich tribal arts, culture, and traditional knowledge systems.
- (b) The core objective of TribeX is to document, preserve and promote tribal art forms, languages, cultural traditions and traditional knowledge systems while making authentic tribal knowledge accessible to learners everywhere.
- (c) In order to facilitate the execution of 'TribeX' project, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has signed an MoU with Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi on 15th July, 2026. The production of courses is being undertaken in a phased manner in consultation with State Tribal Research Institutes as knowledge partners.
- (d) The Ministry, through initiatives such as TribeX and Adi Vaani, is documenting vulnerable indigenous resources and preserving oral traditions.

Further, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs promotes tribal entrepreneurship through its two agency namely Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) & National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC). Ministry through TRIFED implements the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) by establishing Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) for value addition, procurement of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) at Minimum Support Price (MSP), and marketing support for tribal products. NSTFDC provides concessional financial assistance under various loan schemes to support self-employment and entrepreneurship. In addition, the Ministry has launched the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes (VCF-ST) to support tribal business ventures / startups.
