

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.32  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2020

**PRESERVE THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF ST PEOPLE**

32. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:  
PROF. SAUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan for setting up museums and research institutes at national level in order to save and preserve the cultural heritage of the tribal people and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is making efforts for collecting their historical information based on oral history;
- (c) whether the life and struggle of tribal freedom fighters specially from Odisha have been displayed in the National Museum; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a): Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has given approval for setting up a 'National Museum of Tribal Freedom Fighters' at village 'Garudeshwar' of Narmada District in Gujarat. It has also been conceptualized to set up National Tribal Research Institute at central level for providing hand holding support to TRIs to strengthen them as body of knowledge & research and as think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, etc.

(b) State Government of Gujarat has collected and compiled historical information and contributions of the tribal community leaders from various sources to represent facts and verified historical records in this museum through depiction of photographs, documents, paintings, lithographs and artefacts, such as, guns, pistols, swords, shields, badges, medals, dioramas, sculptures, etc.

(c) & (d): Life and struggle journey of the prominent National Tribal freedom fighters are to be displayed in the national museum through 16 major galleries. Other revolts (93) zone wise will also be displayed. Life and struggle of tribal freedom fighters from Odisha have also been included in the National Museum as detailed below:

- i. The Revolt of Surendra Sai (1839-62)
- ii. Koraput Revolt: Laxman Nayak (1942-43)
- iii. Revolt of Ganjam (1800-1805)
- iv. Gumsur Revolt (1808-37)
- v. Khond Revolt (1846-55)