

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4375**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

**CONSERVATION AND PROMOTION OF TRIBAL CULTURE**

**4375. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:**

Will the Minister of **TRIBAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken specific initiatives for the preservation, documentation and promotion of tribal culture and heritage in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and utilized for the conservation of tribal art, language and cultural practices during the last three years; and
- (c) whether the Government has collaborated with tribal communities, experts or institutions to ensure the authenticity and sustainability of tribal cultural projects and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

**(a):** Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has undertaken various initiatives for the preservation, documentation and promotion of tribal culture and heritage in the country. Under the Centrally Sponsored scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)' Ministry provides financial support to 29 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in States/Union Territories (UTs) on the basis of the Annual Action Plan submitted by the States/UTs subject to the approval of the Apex Committee chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Under the Scheme, proposals relating to infrastructural needs, research & documentation activities and training & capacity building programmes, organization of tribal festivals, yatras for promotion of unique cultural heritage and tourism and organisation of exchange visits by tribals are organised so that their cultural practices, languages and ritual are preserved and disseminated. Ministry has sanctioned various projects to the Tribal Research Institutes of the States/UTs towards activities for the socio-cultural, educational, and economic development of the tribal communities. TRIs are primarily institutions under the administrative control of the State Government/UT Administration. The Ministry undertakes following initiatives for the preservation/documentation and promotion of tribal cultural and heritage which are as under:

- i. Ministry has sanctioned 11 Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums in 10 states to acknowledge the heroic and patriotic deeds of tribal people and to exhibit rich tribal cultural heritage of the region. Other than these Ethnographic Museums are also sanctioned to showcase rare artefacts, dresses, ornaments, weapons etc related to life and culture of various tribes.
- ii. Tribal Research Institutes organise different events like National Tribal Craft Mela, National/State Tribal Dance Festival, Art Competition, Workshop – cum – Exhibition on Tribal paintings and state-level tribal poet and writers meet. Further Ministry provides funds to organize tribal fairs & festivals, festivals like "Medaram Jathara"

undertaken by the Koya Tribe of Telangana, Hornbill Festival of Nagaland, Sarhul Festival of Jharkhand, Lokotsav of Goa and Pawl Kut festival of Mizoram, etc.

- iii. Research studies/publication of books/documentation including audio visual documentaries for promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage which includes preservation of tribal languages.
- iv. Research and documentation of Indigenous practices by tribal healers and medicinal plants, Adivasi Languages, agriculture system, dances and paintings, organization of literary festivals, publication of books written by tribal writers/ authors, translation works and literature competitions, etc. Preparing Bilingual Dictionaries, Trilingual Proficiency Modules, Primers for students of Class I, II and III in tribal languages under Multi-Lingual Education (MLE) Intervention in the line of New Education Policy 2020. Publishing Varnamala, local rhymes, and stories in tribal languages. Publishing books, journals on different tribal languages to promote tribal literature. Documenting folklore, and folktales of different tribes for preservation and promotion of tribal folk tradition. Collecting oral literature (songs, riddles, ballads etc.)
- v. Ministry has developed a searchable digital repository where all research papers, books, reports and documents, folks' songs, photos/videos are uploaded. The repositories can be visited at <https://repository.tribal.gov.in/> (Tribal Digital Document Repository)
- vi. Government of India has declared 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to honour all the tribal freedom fighters to remember and acknowledge their contribution to the freedom struggle and cultural heritage, and to re-energize the efforts for the socio-economic development of the tribal regions. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs along with other central ministries, state governments, and other institutions are celebrating the glorious history of its tribal people, culture, and achievements since 2021.
- vii. Development of bilingual Primers for the preservation of tribal languages and enhancement of learning achievement levels amongst the Scheduled Tribe Students. Many language primers have been developed by various State Governments.
- viii. Tribal cultural exchange programmes.
- ix. TRIFED also organizes Adi Mahotsav festival at National level and State level and Tribal Artisan Melas (TAMs) to identify new artisans and new products at the sourcing level in States/Districts/Villages for expanding the tribal producers base.

Moreover, the Ministry of Culture is the nodal Ministry for the promotion of culture including tribal culture as part of its larger mandate for protection and preservation of India's diverse culture. To protect, promote and preserve various forms of folk art and culture including tribal culture throughout the country, the Ministry of Culture has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) in the country during 1985-86 with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. Various festivals like Hornbill Festival, Octave, Tribal Dance Festival, Adi Bimb, Adi Sapta Pallav, Adi Lok Rang, Adiwasi Mahotsav, Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs etc. are organised through Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) of Ministry of Culture to promote & preserve the tribal culture.

Further, Government of India is commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda as Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh from 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024 to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**(b):** Under the scheme of Support to TRIs, Ministry has sanctioned various projects/ activities wherein 100% funding is provided by the Central Government on the proposal submitted by

States/UTs. The details of funds released to States/UTs TRIs under the scheme for the conservation of tribal art, language and cultural practices during the last three years is at **Annexure-I** and also the details of various activities/projects approved under the scheme is available at the official website of the Ministry <https://tribal.nic.in/TRI.aspx>

**(c):** Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides financial assistance under the Central Sector Scheme “Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)”, to reputed research institutions/ organizations/ universities to undertake various research studies/publication of books/ documentation including audio visual documentaries to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues and promotion of rich tribal cultural, traditions and customs as well as capacity building of tribal persons/ institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness. Further, as informed, various State/UT Tribal Research Institute(s) have collaborated with tribal communities, experts or institutions to ensure the authenticity and sustainability of tribal cultural projects.

Statement referred to in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4375 for answer on 27.03.2025

Details of funds sanctioned for the conservation of tribal art, language and cultural practices during the last three years are annexed respectively

Annexure-I(a)

Sl No.	State Name	FY	Project Name	Project Amount (in Lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2023-2024	Skill upgradation among the Tribal Artists and Artisans	50
2.		2023-2024	Organise one day State Level Tribal Paintings/Art competition and felicitation of eminent Tribal Artists	15
3.		2022-2023	Organise one day State Level Tribal Paintings/Art competition and felicitation of eminent Tribal Artists	15
4.		2022-2023	Tribal Talent Hunt activity among the Tribal Art & Artisans in the state (9 ITDA areas)	90
5.		2021-2022	Organize one day State Level Tribal Paintings or Art competition and felicitation of eminent Tribal Artists .	10
6.		2021-2022	Creating data base and capacity Building to Tribal Artisans and Artists	5
7.	Assam	2023-2024	Workshop & Exhibition of Bamboo products made by Tribal artisans in the Exhibition site	12
8.	Chhattisgarh	2021-2022	State Level Tribal Art and Painting Competition	10
9.	NTRI Delhi	2021-2022	Chemical treatment and repair of tribal artifacts	15
10.		2021-2022	Cultural Exchange Program for enhancing of livelihood by way of holding tribal dances, tribal arts OR craft exhibitions and tribal cuisines exhibitions (twice of one week duration in a month comprising of 40 artisans\performers)	150

11.	Gujarat	2021-2022	Special Projects Acquired 1 shop in Ekta Mall, Statues of Unity for Tribal Artisans	16.64
12.		2021-2022	AKAM Tribal art and craft competition	10.75
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2021-2022	Tribal art/craft festival - Lahaul	15
14.		2021-2022	Tribal painting - art competition and felicitating tribal artists and entrepreneur - Spiti	10
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2023-2024	Tribal Art & Craft Exhibition	15
16.		2023-2024	Visits by Tribal Artists and Artisans to various states for Cultural festivals & Programs	20
17.		2021-2022	Training to Self Help Groups (SHGs) on value Addition and Food Processing of Minor Forest Produce along with Tribal Artisans	20
18.	Karnataka	2021-2022	AKAM Organizing State Level Tribal Painting Art Competition and Felicitating Tribal Artists and Entrepreneurs (inviting entries by post or courier) and felicitating them virtually or physically depending upon the situation	10
19.	Kerala	2023-2024	Iribal Dance & Music Festival (TribalArtFestival) (MOTA) Iribal Arts & Handicrafts Festival (Tribal Art Festival)	56.8
20.		2023-2024	Display, Sale and Demonstration of Tribal Paintings (Tribal Arts & Handicrafts Festival)	4.1
21.		2023-2024	Ethnic Cuisine Festival (Tribal Art Festival)	9
22.		2023-2024	Documentation of Vanishing Tribal Art Forms and Oral Literature and Workshop for their Revival	12.65
23.	Meghalaya	2022-2023	Developing of Art & Craft villages for promotion of Tribal art and craft.	82.44
24.		2021-2022	State level tribal painting art competition and felicitating tribal artists and entrepreneurs	9.16
25.	Mizoram	2022-2023	Tribal Art and Craft, Young Artists sustainable Development	25

26.	Odisha	2023-2024	Tribal Painting Workshop cum Exhibition by Tribal Artists of Odisha	10
27.		2023-2024	Promotion of Tribal Museum and Its Management - Live Demonstration of Tribal Art and Crafts by Tribal Artists and Artisans in the Museum Premises	45
28.		2022-2023	Capacity Building Training of tribal Artisans on product Diversification, Packaging or Branding and Digital Marketing of 500 Master Tribal Artisans(Batch of 50 Trainees in 10 Groups) and Market Linkage in collaboration with TRIFED,NIFT and ORMAS	50
29.		2022-2023	Tribal Exchange visit (Participation in Tribal Dance and Tribal Art or Craft Events)	25
30.		2022-2023	Live Demonstration of Tribal Craft and Arts in the Museum Premises ( to show case the rich tribal art or culture) throughout the year {10 tribal artisan in a batch for a fortnight on a rotation basis) Rs.1000 per day per artisan	40
31.		2021-2022	Documentation of tribal products painting, art, handicrafts, artifacts, cuisines oftribals of odisha and HonouringTribal Artisan and their success stories	15
32.		2021-2022	Providing Capacity Building Training to 2 Batches of Tribal Artisans on Packaging, Product diversification and Digital Marketing	20
33.	Tamil Nadu	2021-2022	Workshop on Tribal Art and Craft	6
34.	Tripura	2022-2023	Organizing 2 days state level tribal painting/art competition and felicitation of eminent tribal artists	10
35.	Uttar Pradesh	2021-2022	Organizing State Level Tribal Painting/Art Competition and Feliciating Tribal Artists and Entrepreneurs (inviting entries by post/courier) and felicitating them virtually or physically depending upon the situation Tentative Date March 2022	10

**Annexure-I(b)**

<b>Sl No.</b>	<b>State Name</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Amount (in Lakh)</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2022-2023	Development & TRI publications of Dictionaries among the Six Tribal Languages i.e. Savara, Konda, Kuvi, Adivasi Oriya, Koya & Sugi	60
2.		2021-2022	Development of the Primers of tribal Languages of Jatapu, Gadaba and Yerukula sub tribes ( Preparatory (level 1 in line with NEP requirements)	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	2023-2024	Video documentation in Tribal Languages. Including [Gondi (Gond), Halbi (Halba), Baigani (Baiga), Birhori (Birhor) and Kamari (Kamar) ] regarding the awareness about Sickle Cell Anaemia disease.	35.33
4.	Jharkhand	2023-2024	Writing Workshop and Publication of books on grammar,prose and vese of Parhaiya, Mal Paharia Sabar and Korwa Languages	15
5.		2023-2024	Publication of books on grammar,prose and vese of Asur,Birhor,Birjia and Malto Languages	15
6.		2022-2023	Launch of Primer (Childrenâ€™s Pictorial) Books for Asuri Korwa Savar and Parhaiya Primitive Tribal (PVTG) Languages	8
7.	Kerala	2023-2024	Primer Preparation for Malaipandaram Tribal Language	4.46
8.	Mizoram	2021-2022	Digital repository of primers in tribal languages in Mizoram.	5
9.	Odisha	2022-2023	State Level Tribal Essay Debate competition among students in all 21 tribal languages on tribal freedom fighters and India independence	10

10.		2022-2023	Audio Video Content Development {2 5 80.00 Approved minutes duration 40 short audio videos in three languages- English, Odia and Hindi) on tribal culture of selected culturally vibrant communities of Odisha for display] in Virtual Mode and Interactive Mode in KIOSKS of the Museum (tr.Rs.2 Lakh for each video including shooting, editing and final 80.00 product	80
11.		2021-2022	Digital repository and documentation of primers in tribal languages developed by TRIs	10
12.	Tripura	2022-2023	An Ethnological study on Karbong subtribes of Tripura including Habitate, Livelihood, Mapping of Karbong subtribes, Language etc.	8
13.		2021-2022	Celebration of Kokborok day on 19th January of every year since 2004 on its 25 years of recognition of Kokborok as State language on 19th January, 1979.	10
14.		2021-2022	Natural Language Processing on Kokborok ProgrammingA Translation Lingo Software (Kokborok To Selected Global Languages & Vice versa) Duration 06 months	15



## Annexure-I(c)

I No.	State Name	FY	Project Name	Project Amount (in Lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2023-2024	Inter State Cultural Exchange Programme for 35 days 5 groups X 5 members = 25 members	5
2.		2022-2023	Interstate Cultural Exchange Programme	5
3.		2021-2022	Inter State Cultural Exchange Programme	5
4.	NTRI Delhi	2021-2022	Cultural Exchange Program for enhancing of livelihood by way of holding tribal dances, tribal arts OR craft exhibitions and tribal cuisines exhibitions (twice of one week duration in a month comprising of 40 artisans\performers)	150
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	2023-2024	Panel Discussions on tribal rights, cultural preservation, sustainable development, and identity.	10
6.		2023-2024	Visits by Tribal Artists and Artisans to various states for Cultural festivals & Programs	20
7.	Jharkhand	2021-2022	Sending Cultural troupes for participating in organized cultural fest to be organized in Orissa.	5
8.	Odisha	2022-2023	Audio Video Content Development {2 5 80.00 Approved minutes duration 40 short audio videos in three languages- English, Odia and Hindi) on tribal culture of selected culturally vibrant communities of Odisha for display] in Virtual Mode and Interactive Mode in KIOSKS of the Museum (tr.Rs.2 Lakh for each video including shooting, editing and final 80.00 product	80
9.	Tamil Nadu	2023-2024	Nilgiri Tribes Cultural Reviva and Sustainable Development Project	30
10.	Telangana	2021-2022	Setting up of Tribal Cultural Hub at Adivasi and Banjara Bhavan Adivasi Bhavan	10
11.		2021-2022	Setting up of Tribal Cultural Hub at Adivasi and Banjara Bhavan Banjara Bhavan	10
12.		2021-2022	Arrangement of tribal cultural programmes during the Medaram Jathara-2022	10
13.	West Bengal	2021-2022	Bulletin of cultural research institute, publication on research studies and seminar proceedings	1