

## **A summary report on 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme 2014-15**

India is home to a large number of indigenous people, who are still untouched by the lifestyle of the modern world. Tribal people have their own culture, tradition, language and lifestyle and all these components play a key part in constructing the cultural heritage of India. The traditional and cultural distinction of each tribal community has made them distinguishable from each other and their cultural and traditional heritage add colour and variation to our culture as a whole and form a diverse Indian culture.

Indian tribal people reside in approximately fifteen percent of the country's area. They primarily live in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains, forests, hills and inaccessible areas that perhaps lie dotted in the panoramic Indian terrain. In India there are 104.2 million tribal people which constitute 8.6% of total population as per census 2011. India has the largest concentration of the tribal people anywhere in the world except perhaps in Africa (tribal.nic.in).

These tribal people also known as the Adivasis are the poorest in the country, Most of the tribal people are still dependent on hunting, agriculture and fishing for their livelihood. Due to lack of proper education, employment opportunities and proper mainstreaming facilities, many a times these tribal people, especially the youngsters get frustrated and deviated from the mainstream.

Therefore, in order to help the tribal youth to see the various parts of India, understand its diverse culture, economy, polity and social fabric and for wide exposure to scientific and technological advancement in the country and get benefit from it, to develop emotional linkages with their peer groups in other part of the country, to equip them with life skills and employability skills, to develop their personality and also to sensitize these tribal youth about their rich traditional and cultural heritage and enable them to preserve it for the future generation, the 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme was sanctioned by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India to Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

The 7th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme has been organized at 10 venues across the country viz. Hyderabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Chennai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Pune and Ahmedabad.

Objective of the 7th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme was

- To provide an opportunity to the tribal youth of 20 selected districts viz. Bastar, Bijapur, Dantewada, Kanker, Narayanpur, Sukma, Kondagaon, Chatra, Garhwa, Giridih, Gumla, Latehar, Palamu, Lohardaga, Simdega, W.Singhbhu, Khunti, Koraput, Malkangiri and Nuapada of 03 States viz. Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha for understanding the technological and industrial advancement that have taken place in different state of the country with focus on various development activities, skill development educational & employment opportunities available there.
- To provide opportunities to the participants for interactions with local communities, Panchayati Raj Institutions, and the youths affiliated with the NYKS youth clubs so as to develop emotional and cultural ties with the youth placed in similar life situation in different parts of the Country,
- To develop personality of the tribal youth by enhancing their understanding of ten core life skills, identify their skill development oriented training needs and fulfillment of their legitimate career aspirations through employable skill scheme of government of India & State Government and provide them necessary guidance and career counseling.
- Exposure visit to places of Scientific and historical importance, Institute of National Importance, Successful Enterprises, Corporate Sectors, Educational Institutions.

## Programme

The programmes were organized at 10 venues viz Hyderabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Chennai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Pune & Ahmadabad. The programme was graced by eminent personalities & VIPs.



*7<sup>TH</sup> Tribal youth Participants call upon Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India at Rashtrapati Bhawan.*

Under 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme the 252 participants including Escorts at Delhi got an opportunity to call on Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India and had interaction with Hon'ble President.

Shri E.S.L. Narasimhan, Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh, graced the programme at Hyderabad, Shri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of Transport Government of Karnataka, at Bangalore, Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki, Hon'ble Governor of Haryana at Chandigarh, Sri Sadhan Pandey, Hon'ble Minister for Consumer Affairs at Kolkata, Shri Padmanabha Balakrishna Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Assam at Guwahati, Shri O.P Kohli, Hon'ble Governor of Gujarat at Ahmadabad besides senior officers of Ministry of Home Affairs, State Government, NYKS, BSF, CRPF, NCC & NSS attended the programme at various venues.



*Participants attending inaugural ceremony at Hyderabad*

The Programmes were started with the inaugural speech by the dignitaries. Discernible discussions were held on issues & challenges faced by tribal youth and problems innate to tribal areas with possible solutions were put forward by the participating tribal youths in the subsequent group discussions. Eminent resource persons facilitated the process of group discussion and role plays. There were sessions on skill development and employment generation also. CRPF took sessions on career Guidance and also motivated the youth to join CRPF and other Armed Forces to serve the nation. The interaction programme was followed by cultural programme where the artist from the states of Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhatisgarh performed their traditional and folk dances.



*Cultural programme at one of the venue of 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme*

The Sessions helped the tribal youth to develop an emotional linkage with their peer groups in other parts of the country, shared and appreciated each other's traditional and cultural heritage as well as development in different spheres of life.

The programme provided an opportunity to the participants to interact with the local communities, Panchayati Raj Institutions and the youth affiliated with the NYKS Youth Clubs so as to develop emotional and cultural ties with the youth placed in similar life situation in different parts of the country. It also provided platform to the participants to interact with each other and share their experiences for mutual benefit. The participants were given knowledge and information on RTI, Career Guidance, Tribal Welfare Schemes, Life Skills Education, Personality Development, Self Employment, National Integration and Awareness about HIV/AIDS. The Tribal Youth were also given Information about various schemes of Government for their economical, social and cultural development and to understand the unity in diversity of our country.





*Tribal Youth participating in class room session and yoga*

The resource persons were invited from Local educational institutions, Deptt. of Tribal Affairs, State Govt. Department of SC/ST Development, Panchayati Raj Institutions and renowned social scientists and educationists. The dignitaries and resource persons spoke on need to have concerted efforts for the overall development of tribal population for their inclusive growth and including them in the mainstream of national development. Senior officers of MHA were invited at all the 10 venues.



*Participants visiting Historical places at Jaipur and Delhi.*

The visit programme of participants to important places historical places, cultural monuments, scientific institution, training centres, advance technical institution of national importance helped widen their knowledge and broadened their perspective of development.

A total of 2476 youths including Escorts participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme.

### **Outcome of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme**

- The 7<sup>th</sup> Tribal Youth Exchange Programme 2014-2015 was an inventive step as well as a well chalked out intervention programme for providing exposure to tribal youths of naxalite affected states to the lifestyle, social and cultural norms of visited places on the mainland viz. Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Chennai, Pune, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Guwahati and Chandigarh.
- The programmes helped in sensitizing the tribes about the rich and traditional cultural heritage of the tribal communities and enable them to preserve it for the future generation.
- The programme helped the tribal youth to develop an emotional linkage with their peer groups in other part of the country.
- The programme undoubtedly, provided windows or interfaces to break social and cultural isolation and directly helped to instill feelings of kinship across mainstream India.
- The programme helped in disseminating the message of Sadbhavana, Peace, Development and Solidarity among the tribal youth for displaying the cultural variety, uniqueness and integrity of the country.
- The Tribal youths were given Information and Knowledge on National Integration, Communal Harmony, Indian Constitutions, Democracy, Rights and duties of Citizens, Freedom Struggle, Personality Development, Health Awareness Programme, Disaster preparedness & Management, Environment & Climate change, Global warming, Language learning & Women Empowerment etc.
- The participants shared and appreciated each other's traditional and cultural heritage as well as development in different spheres of life

- The programme provided an opportunity to the participants to interact with the local communities, Panchayati Raj Institutions and the youth affiliated with the NYKS Youth Clubs so as to develop emotional and cultural ties with the youth placed in similar life situation in different parts of the country & provided a platform to the participants to interact with each other and share their experiences for mutual benefit.
- The participants were provided an opportunity to see the institutions of science and technology, important enterprise, corporate sectors, places of historical and tourist's importance which helped enhance their knowledge in advancement in science and technology, Indian history, polity and economics, social and cultural arena.
- The programme provided opportunity to tribal youth to enhance entrepreneurship skills of and understand innovative business models for their self employment.
- The programme tried to help tribal youth to actively participate in nation development and join the mainstream for their sustainable development.