

DoSEL Drives Educational Advancements for Tribal Communities at PM-JUGA Manthan Shivir

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Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Jual Oram, and Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education, Shri Jayant Chaudhary, graced a Manthan Shivir at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 27th September 2024. The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, in convergence with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, conducted the Shivir. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary of the Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL); Shri Vipin Kumar, Additional Secretary, DoSEL; Smt. Archana Sharma Awasthi, Joint Secretary, DoSEL; and other officials of the ministries were also present at the event.

The event marked a significant milestone in the finalisation of the detailed action plan for the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PM-JUGA), a flagship initiative aimed at the holistic development of over 63,000 tribal majority villages across India. The day-long Shivir, attended by senior officials from multiple ministries, State representatives, and stakeholders, commenced with an inaugural session where the dignitaries set the tone for the mission's overarching goal of tribal welfare.

Shri Jayant Chaudhary lauded PM JUGA as a progressive, unique program that will ensure holistic and inclusive growth, especially for marginalised groups. He advocated for the incorporation of autonomous tribal councils and panchayats, which will guarantee that all beneficiaries are included.

As part of the sectoral workshops, Shri Vipin Kumar addressed further strategies to implement PM JUGA and the unique educational difficulties faced by tribal students. The presentation provided an additional roadmap for the construction of 1000 hostels.

The focus of this initiative is to foster greater educational inclusion and bridge the gap between tribal and non-tribal regions, creating opportunities for tribal students to excel in a rapidly changing world. The States also disclosed their roadmap for carrying out this Central scheme. The workshop was further enriched by a demonstration of the PVTG-PM Gati Shakti Portal, which showcased the commitment by DoSEL to using technology to monitor and track educational progress in tribal regions, particularly those inhabited by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

Smt. Archana Sharma Awasthi conducted a pivotal plenary session, with a comprehensive state-by-state assessment of tribal regions. This critical evaluation provided an in-depth overview of the current educational landscape in these areas, highlighting both the progress made and the challenges ahead. The session focused on formulating actionable strategies to accelerate the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PM-JUGA), ensuring that the initiative drives tangible change in tribal communities.

The Manthan Shivir marked a significant step forward in finalising a comprehensive and actionable plan to enhance educational opportunities for tribal communities. The Department of School Education and Literacy remains dedicated to the swift and effective implementation of these plans, which align with the vision of Viksit Bharat through educational empowerment.

The Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan, approved by the Union Cabinet, focuses on enhancing the quality of life in tribal villages by converging efforts across 30 States and Union Territories. The initiative will positively impact over 5 crore tribal people in 549 districts and 2,911 blocks, ensuring they receive the benefits of targeted schemes across key sectors such as education, health, rural development and infrastructure.

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