

**Government of India  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs  
August Kranti Bhawan**

**“Financial Assistance for support to Centres of Excellence”**

The scheme aims at supporting and strengthening active research in Universities and reputed Institutions as well as Institutions with potential, including NGOs, Registered Professional Organizations and Autonomous Bodies working in the fields of tribal development and research.

**2. Background:**

2.1 Research Institutes and Organizations have been receiving financial support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for carrying out short-term research and extension work among tribal communities in the country. It is a fact that Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been funding to them on the basis of the proposals received in the first instance and studies approved. It has been felt that such studies are not conducted on regular basis. In order to continue the research studies on regular basis, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been considering for quite some time to identify institutes/ organizations of Centre of Excellence to involve them for working out a long term and policy oriented research studies for the development of tribals of the country. This initiative demands support in the respective areas or fields of their operation.

2.2 With a view to materializing this concept, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is of the opinion that a component “**Financial Assistance to Centres of Excellence**” is required to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues by reputed agencies who are experts in the field.

**3 Objectives of the Scheme:**

3.1 The broad objectives of the Scheme would be as follows:

- (i) To enhance and strengthen the institutional resource capabilities of various NGOs, Research Institutes and University Departments to conduct qualitative, action oriented and policy research on tribal communities.
- (ii) To enhance and upgrade the existing skills, knowledge and technical know-how of the NGOs, Research Institutes and University Departments so that they may be able to uphold the cultural diversity of the Scheduled Tribes of the country and their empowerment.
- (iii) To enhance the efficiency of existing institutions for devising appropriate strategies for tribal development in partnership with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

**4. Criteria for selection of Centres of Excellence (CoE)**

Board guidelines that would be followed for selection of CoEs are as follows:

- 1) Excellent application-oriented research background;
- ii) National or Inter National recognition of the capability of the centres to undertake field research;
- iii) Capability to undertake field research at least in the regional contest; National level capability will be preferred.

- iv) Excellent infrastructure for research & training;
- v) Reasonable financial corpus for research activities to go on even if Ministry funds are not available;
- vi) Reasonable permanent and temporary research & administrative manpower;
- vii) Appropriate networking with related institution;

**5. Areas of works where financial assistance would be provided:**

- i) Documentation of tribal cultures, which includes dance, music, songs, languages, dialects, tribal arts, traditional medicines and sports, customary laws and religions.
- ii) Research on Tribal Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Rights, Women rights in the Vth Scheduled Areas and the VIth Scheduled Areas.
- iii) Create an awareness among the Scheduled Tribes on various Acts & Rules viz, The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, The Scheduled Castes and The Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act,1989; National Policy for the Empowerment of Women (2001); National Commission for Women Act,1990; Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act,2005, Forest Conservation Act, 1980; Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas)Act, 1996; National Rural Employment Guarantee Act; and other relevant acts and rules .
- iv) Research studies on migration, displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation of minor and major project affected Tribal families/ tribal areas.
- v) Dissemination of various enactments/ regulations on money lending / debt redemption meant for STs.
- vi) Documentation of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) in respect of their population, customary laws and culture.
- vii) Organization of awareness campaign amongst STs about basic minimum needs like primary health including pre-natal and post-natal health for women & children, drinking water and primary education; etc.
- viii) Publication of issues related to research and documentation of the Scheduled Tribes.
- ix) Organization of seminars / workshop on matters related to tribals issues etc.
- x) Documentation of tribal artifacts.

**6. Operation of the Scheme:**

- 6.1 Renowned NGOs, Research Institutes, University Departments (of Anthropology, Linguistics, Sociology, etc disciplines) and Deemed Universities, where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out pioneering research in the field of study of tribal cultures and their development and extension work in particular subject areas and, therefore have the potential to evolve into a Centre of Excellence would be identified by the Ministry to act as nodal agencies through which the Scheme will be implemented.

**7. Financial Assistance**

- 7.1 Grants-in-aid will be provided on the basis of approved research study programmes and project proposals covering one of the areas of list of research study works as stipulated in Para-4 along with Application Form duly filled up by the Institute/Organization

**(Appendix).**

**8. Funding Pattern:**

- i) The Institutes/Organizations declared as Centre of Excellence will be provided 100% Grants-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- ii) The installment will be released only after submission of draft report of the research study/documentation done by a particular institute/organization on the work approved by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- iii) Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall have the right to review the draft report and any modification asked for by the Ministry will have to be carried out by the concerned Institute/Organization.

**9. Selection of Centre of Excellence:**

i) In order to identify the Institutes/ Organizations to be the Centres of Excellence, the Ministry shall constitute a committee, to be headed by a Joint Secretary or equivalent officer for short listing Institutes/Organizations based on certain parameters decided by the committee.

ii) The meeting of the Selection Committee for identifying the Institutes/Organizations as Centres of Excellence will be convened on yearly basis as per Financial Year.

iii) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will invite applications, from reputed Institutes/Organizations who wish to undertake research studies in the areas of works as stipulated in Para-5.

**10. Submission of schemes/programme/research studies proposals**

- 10.1 After declaration of a particular Institute/ Organization as a Centre of Excellence, they will have to submit their scheme/programme/research studies proposals on any of the areas of works as prescribed at Para-4 of the guidelines to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 10.2 The duration of research studies/documentation work report will be within a period of 8-12 months from the date of sanction of grants-in-aid under the Scheme of Centre of Excellence
- 10.3 The Institutes/ Organizations will be reviewed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs from time to time for their continuance under the scheme of Centre of Excellence

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Central Sector Scheme of “Financial Assistance for support of Centre of Excellence”**

**(Grants-in-Aid to Institutions for Centre of Excellence)**

1.	Name and address of the Organization/Institution	
2.	Status of the Organization/Institution (Registered Society/University etc.):	
3.	Name and Designation of the key persons of the Organization:	
4.	Designation of person Empowered/Authorized to receive financial grant from Ministry of Tribal Affairs	
5.	In the case of Registered Society, a copy of each of the following documents may be enclosed:	
	a) Registration Certificate b) Memoranda of Association c) By-Laws d) Audited Statement of Accounts (Previous three financial years)	
6.	Activities of the organization /institutions:	
7.	Letter of Ministry of Tribal Affairs recognizing the Institute/Organization as Centre of Excellence:	
8.	Activities proposed Objectives/Target Group Duration:	
9.	Assistance required from Ministry ( Budget Break-up):	
10.	Any other sources of funding:	
11.	Target groups likely to be benefited by the proposed activities:	
12.	Utilization Certificate of the previous grants received from Ministry of Tribal Affairs	

Place:

Date:

Signature of President/Secretary of the Society/Academy with seal

