

Recommendations of the Committee constituted for establishment of the Centre for Tribal Studies

Meetings of the Committee constituted by the Competent Authority consisting of the following to deliberate upon establishment of a Centre for Tribal Studies within the structural framework of the University were held on 20.01.2023 at 3.30 PM and on 23.01.2023 at 4.30 PM at the Council Room of the University.

1. Prof. Shri Prakash Singh, Director, South Delhi Campus - Chairperson
2. Prof. K. Ratnabali, Dean, Academic Affairs
3. Head, Department of History
4. Head, Department of Anthropology
5. Head, Department of Sociology
6. Prof. Benrithung Murry, Department of Anthropology
7. Dr. Nidhi Lakhotra, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Evening College
8. Dr. Looke Kumari, Bharati College
9. Dr. Santosh Hasnu, Hans Raj College
10. Dr. Anil Sharma, Member, Academic Council
11. Sh. Jay Chanda, Joint Registrar (Academic) - Member Secretary

The Committee extensively deliberated upon various aspects of establishment of a Centre for Tribal Studies in all its ramifications. The Committee was informed by the Chairperson that an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs has already been sanctioned for the functioning of the Centre at the initial level.

In course of the discussions held in this regard, it was felt that it would be appropriate to develop the Centre as an independent entity within the overall structural framework of the University under the Ordinance XX of the Ordinances of the University with a defined objective, governance structure and other essential components for smooth functioning of the Centre.

The Centre for Tribal Studies will act as a multidisciplinary centre to facilitate studies on various aspects of Tribal Affairs including their anthropological, social, cultural, religious, environmental, historical, economical and legal perspective while working towards their continuous future progression.

The committee was of the view that broadly the objective of the Centre would be to encourage and facilitate research on the following areas:

- To understand the term “Tribe” from India – Centric perspective including study of their social, cultural, linguistic, religious, economic, environmental diversity and commonalities.
- Role and contribution of tribal leaders in various eras of Indian history.
- Role and Significance of tribal leaders in India’s struggle for freedom and identify the unsung heroes among them.
- Various *Lok* traditions of India’s tribes including their indigenous/traditional knowledge and work to disseminate more and more information about them to the public in general and to academia and students in particular.
- Special problems and needs of Denotified and Nomadic tribes and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) with special reference to conservation, development and special health needs.

- Forest-tribe relationship with special reference to stability of forest ecosystems and livelihood issues.
- Contemporary issue relevant to the tribal communities which has a significant bearing on their present well-being and future progression in terms of overall developmental perspective.

The Centre would be expected to encourage field work among the tribes and create an ecosystem of evolving academic knowledge through their active participation and work towards achievement of the objectives of the Centre in a meaningful way.

The Centre will be primarily governed through the following bodies function under the overall control of the Executive Council of the University:

- (i) Governing Body
- (ii) Research Committee

The Committee, after due deliberations, prepared a draft document to be placed under Ordinance XX of the Ordinances of the University, which is placed at Annexure I of the Minutes.

The meetings ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Prof. Shri Prakash Singh)
Director, South Delhi Campus
Chairperson