



Special Interactive Meeting of Hon'ble President of India with Tribal Scholarship Beneficiaries to be held under “Birsa Lives in New Bharat Week”

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As part of the nationwide celebrations of “Janjatiya Garima Utsav”, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs will organise a Special Interactive Meeting of the Hon'ble President of India with beneficiaries of the Ministry's flagship Central Sector Scholarship Schemes.

The interaction is being organised during “Birsa Lives in New Bharat Week”, being observed from 25th May to 2nd June 2026 in commemoration of the inspiring legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda — a symbol of courage, social awakening and unwavering commitment to the nation. The “Janjatiya Garima Utsav”, being celebrated from 10th May to 9th June 2026, honours the rich heritage, cultural legacy and invaluable contributions of tribal communities to India's nation-building journey, inspiring tribal youth towards education, leadership, innovation and active participation in the vision of Viksit Bharat envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Around 200 tribal students from across the country, who are beneficiaries of the Ministry's scholarship schemes, will participate in the interaction with the Hon'ble President. These students represent some of the brightest young minds from tribal communities pursuing excellence in higher education, advanced research and international academic engagement. Such an interaction would send a powerful and positive message regarding the Government's unwavering commitment towards educational empowerment, social inclusion and nation building in realizing the goals of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The participating students are beneficiaries of the following schemes:

- National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribes (NFST)
- National Scholarship Scheme for Higher Education of ST Students
- National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Scheme for ST Students

The National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribes (NFST) is a fully funded Central Sector Scheme that supports meritorious ST students pursuing Ph.D. programmes in India. Every year, 750 fresh fellowships are awarded, and currently around 3,000 students are benefiting under the scheme.

The National Scholarship Scheme for Higher Education supports ST students pursuing graduate and postgraduate studies in 265 premier institutions across fields such as Engineering, Medicine, Law, Management and Information Technology. Around 2,500 fresh scholarships are awarded annually, while nearly 7,000 students are currently benefiting under the scheme.

The National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Scheme enables meritorious ST students to pursue higher education in globally ranked universities abroad. Implemented in coordination with Indian Missions overseas, the scheme provides 20 fresh awards every year. At present, around 70 students are pursuing studies in leading international institutions under the scheme.

The special interaction aims to encourage tribal students to pursue academic excellence, leadership and innovation while reinforcing the Government's commitment towards inclusive and transformative tribal empowerment.

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