

CONCEPT NOTE

When the clutches of British colonialism pervaded the tribal landscape with their exploitative zamindari system of permanent settlement and entry of Dikus (outsiders) the centuries old indigenous lifestyle sustainability faced significant disruption. Amidst the exploitative landscape arose a charismatic and visionary leader of tribals popularly known as Birsa Munda who with his astute leadership and finesse organised Munda rebellion. Having led the tribals spiritually his struggle stood for reaffirmation of tribal cultural identities and preservation of pristine environment symbolised by the slogan of 'JAL, JANGAL, ZAMEEN.' The inherent displacement of tribals due to various developmental initiatives since millennia has led to their profound displacement and exploitation resulting in erosion of indigenous traditions and tribal identities. It was only with Mughal and specifically colonial invaders that the country got deprived of its own heritage, wealth and culture. And hence, inclusive development becomes imperative for the progress of our society. Yet, this development has to be inclusive, with all the sections of society being beneficiaries of it. With particular emphasis on the Tribals, one could not refute their efforts in the freedom struggle of India as well as their efforts in Post- independence development. And hence development has become the central battleground where in contested notions of collective good of the society on the one hand and safeguarding individual rights of tribals on the other hand has become key concern for policy makers. In India Adivasis constitute some 8% of India's population, but 40 % of the 20 to 30 million people that have been displaced by large dams since independence, this issue holds immense significance. Whether, it is building of a dam or establishment of industry or multipurpose projects, or granting concession to Special Economic Zones (SEZs) has given either 'no' or the 'least' benefits to tribal, every time bearing the brunt of such development and pushed into downward spiral of poverty.



Displacement of tribal communities is one of the major consequences of all the developmental activities taken place in the country, which is a social disruptive process yet overlooked. Maximum displacement of tribals is concentrated in the regions of Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. To exemplify, the districts Korba and Raigarh (Chhattisgarh); Valsad (Gujarat); Pashchimi Singbhum and Purbi Singbhum (Jharkhand); Kendujhar, Koraput and Mayurbhani (Odisha) have a combination of both: the most industrialized and the most deprived. The displacement has alienated them from their forests and lands, the two vital elements for their survival. Involuntary displacement of indigenous people from their lands and territories earlier by colonial invaders, and in contemporary times by elite classes, violate the full spectrum of their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, which have been ensured to these people through national as well as international legal framework. Article 21 in Part III Fundamental Rights, is the most important Article in the Constitution which guarantees all the people, 'right to life' as well as 'right to livelihood'. After displacement, a vast majority of people are either forced to live in slums in urban areas or on destitute lands, without the access to basic means of livelihood. "To err is to human", and therefore a nuanced approach is at the exigency, which will be more 'people oriented' and more 'participatory' in nature. Learning from the Indian planning history, the spirit of the Constitution lies in upholding the expectations of the layman and hence including them in the decision -making process of development projects, specifically regarding the construction of dams, environment impact, cost-benefit analysis, allocation of resources, displacement and rehabilitation. Hence, the circumnavigation around the 'nature-tribal' bond is much needed. Cognizing all the facts, the state-oriented policies and actions, in corollary with indigenous leadership is up for an upgradation and hence, the 150th birth anniversary of Birsa Munda is of particular relevance here. The fact that he was a young leader, with no selfish motives and a leader vouching just for tribal rights is indeed a Janjatiya Gaurav. Hence, it goes undisputed that the tribals have been the 'guards' and 'protectors' the forest and its resources; hence, they need to be protected for the survival of both- the tribals and forests with efficient collaboration and progressive policies.



This seminar aims to discuss how State and its policies could further enhance the development activities with maximum participation and an urbanized governance system. The focus area is to enhance the SOP (standard operating procedure) in terms of rights of the Tribals and to ameliorate the study on policies so as to have a solution giving system. The core of the seminar is to delve deeper into the post -modern era tribal demands in resource-rich Central Indian states and how the state schemes and policies, with few ramifications can make our country way ahead of time and ideology, which nobody ever imagined.

Subthemes

- 1. Unleashing the tribal potential through the lens of Birsa Munda
- 2. Understanding Indigenous leadership through Janjatiya Rights
- 3. Janjatiya Contributions in Shaping the History of Bharat
- 4. Birsa Munda and Tribal Social Infrastructure
- 5. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India
- 6. Tribal Society relation with Forest
- 7. Issues of land, forest, minimum wages and social oppression in tribal regions of India
- 8. Development induced displacement in India (Dams, Industry, Mining and Multipurpose Projects)
- 9. Displacement and its effects on Tribal rights
- 10. Panchayat Extension Schedule Act (PESA), 1996
- 11. Forest Rights Act, 2006
- 12. Proposed policy of Government of India on reintroduction of Special Economic Zones and its impacts on displacement of Tribal people
- 13. Tribal inclusion through participatory research





Call for Abstracts

The organisers invite abstracts for paper presentation from all interested academicians and researchers for national seminar on "Development induced displacement and its ramifications on tribal rights: the case of India". Interested author(s) are requested to submit the abstract (not exceeding 300 words) of their original research contribution through the email address geoseminarkmc@gmail.com latest by 20th January 2025

Authors are advised to submit not more than two abstracts. The abstract of the paper should be typed in Times New Roman (12 Font Size) with 1.5 spacing. It should include the title of the paper, name of the author(s), Keywords, affiliation, e-mail address and contact number. The corresponding author will be informed through e-mail about the acceptance of the abstract. Thereafter, the contributors will be expected to pay their registration fee by 25th January 2025 through the portal. Selected papers will be published by a reputed publisher.

Submission details:

Registration Link:

https://forms.gle/9PTxDDM87Mri6nFn8

E-mail Address:

geoseminarkmc@gmail.com

Scan to register

Important Dates:

Submission of Abstract:	20 January 2025	
Acceptance of Abstract:	22 January 2025	
Registration fees Deadline	25 January 2025	
Full paper submission:	30 January 2025	

Registration Fee:

Conference Delegates	On or before 25 January, 2025	After 25 January, 2025
Indian Delegates	INR 800	INR 1000
Research Scholars	INR 500	INR 700
International Delegates	USD 50	USD 60

In case of any query kindly co E-mail: geoseminarkmc@gmail.com jeeteshrai@kmc.du.ac.in

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NOTE: Accommodation will be provided to the outstation delegates on payment basis. No TA/DA WILL BE PAID.

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