



National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Visit report of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi to the Chandrapur District of Maharashtra to review the implementation of Constitutional safeguards, welfare and development schemes for Scheduled Tribes from 30th July to 31st July 2024

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The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is a constitutional body set up under Article 338A of the Constitution of India to investigate and monitor all matter relating to protection, welfare and socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes in the country. As per constitutional provisions, the Union and every State Govt. shall consult the Commission on all major policy of decisions affecting Scheduled Tribes. The Commission is required to present to the Hon'ble President of India reports upon working of those safeguards and all such reports are to be laid before each House of Parliament along with Memorandum explaining the Action Taken or propose to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non- acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

In pursuance of the above constitutional mandate, Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, decided to have a meeting with the District Collector and other district level officials on 31.07.2024 to evaluate the working of constitutional safeguards available to the Scheduled Tribes in the Chandrapur district and review implementation of various service safeguards and other developmental schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes.

Before this meeting, Hon'ble Member visited Anganwadi Centre & Primary School in *Mangli Deotale* panchayat of *Warora* Taluka, followed by visit to *Shasakiy Adivasi Madhyamik Ashramshala* in Chandankheda. The next day Hon'ble Member met with the representatives of HR/ CSR heads of companies operating in Chandrapur district and with the officials from Tribal Research and Training Institute, (TRTI) to have firsthand information of the implementation of schemes/ provisions of government for the safeguard and welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

Brief profile of the Chandrapur District of Maharashtra

Chandrapur District spans a geographic area of 11,443 square kilometers and comprises 15 talukas. The district has a significant tribal population, totaling 389,441 individuals, which constitutes 17.67% of the total population of 2,204,307. Among the tribal groups, the Kolam population stands at 7,995.

The district includes four talukas with Primitive Tribal Groups, underscoring the presence of vulnerable communities that require special attention. There are 182 villages within the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) area and an additional 560 villages classified under the Additional Tribal Sub-Plan (ATSP) area. The district also has seven talukas within the Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) area, covering 229 villages, and three talukas in the Mini MADA area, which encompasses 66 villages. In total, the district has 1,037 villages within the Tribal Sub-Plan area.

Notably, 357 villages in Chandrapur District have a tribal population that exceeds 50%, highlighting the significant concentration of tribal communities in these regions. These statistics emphasize the need for tailored developmental programs and policies to address the specific needs and challenges faced by the Scheduled Tribes in Chandrapur.

Visit to Anganwadi Workers, Village Sarpanch and Primary School Teachers & Students in *Mangli Deotale* panchayat of *Warora* Taluka

Date: 30th July 2024 | Location: Office of Gram Panchayat, Mangli Deotale, Maharashtra

Before the review of Chandrapur, Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, met with Anganwadi Workers, Village Sarpanch and Primary School Teachers & Students in *Mangli Deotale* panchayat of *Warora* Taluka. where several issues affecting the Scheduled Tribes (ST) community were brought to knowledge of Commission.

A case of physical assault and misconduct involving Tripti Ravindra Meshram was reported, with three perpetrators named in the FIR filed at Durgapur Police Station on 16th May 2024. The incident, related to a hotel business dispute, is a

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सदस्य / Member

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serious matter where victim from ST community is constantly getting threats from the accused. Another atrocity case from *Pipri* village also requires immediate attention and resolution of the district administration.

Water scarcity remains a significant issue in the villages, including *Chinhoda* and nearby areas, where the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission has been inoperational. The unavailability of sand, crucial for local construction and development is also one of the issues in that locality. Additionally, in one instance, the Public Distribution System (PDS) operator in the area has been accused of charging extra money from residents under the guise of transportation costs, which need to be investigated.

There are also reports of irregularities in the distribution of tricycles to handicapped individuals, where the tricycles provided were of substandard quality. This matter should be addressed urgently to ensure that disabled individuals receive the proper support and mobility aids they are entitled to. The issue of landlessness among the Kolar tribes in the district also need intervention to provide land rights and support for these communities.



Figure 1: Meeting with Village Sarpanch, Anganwadi workers and students at School & Panchayat Office in Mangli Deotale panchayat of Warora Taluka

The lack of proper roads in tribal villages, such as *Kondara* and *Majra*, under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, severely hampers accessibility and development. The Commission suggests that road construction in these areas be

prioritised. Additionally, concerns were raised regarding the lack of individual land titles (*pattas*) for tribal people from the Forest Department. The Community *pattas*, currently under some registered society, does not allow landless tribal individuals to claim ownership. This situation necessitates a re-evaluation to ensure that landless tribal families can secure their rightful land.

Visit to *Shasakiy Adivasi Madhyamik Ashramshala* in Chandankheda, Chandrapur district of Maharashtra

Date: 30th July 2024 from 5 PM | Location: Chandankheda, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra

Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST made a visit to the *Shasakiy Adivasi Madhyamik Ashramshala* in Chandankheda, Chandrapur district of Maharashtra. During the visit, the Commission observed numerous issues related to cleanliness, hygiene and hostel accommodation, which were found to be below the standards.



Figure 2: Photographs from visit to Ashramshala in Chandankheda, Chandrapur District.

The Commission observed that *Ashramshala* hosts a total of 242 students, including 125 girls and 47 students in the 10th standard. However, several issues were observed that require immediate attention. The overall cleanliness of the school premises was severely lacking, with many corners of the walls and stairs stained with *gutka* (a tobacco product) and unclean washrooms. Additionally, the drinking

water vending machine installed beside the boys' hostel washrooms poses a significant hygiene risk.

The hostel facilities are in a state of disrepair. There were multiple instances of water seepage from the walls and roofs, and the rooms had inadequate ventilation and lacked essential amenities like fans, making living conditions uncomfortable. The bedding provided to students was old, worn out, and unclean. Furthermore, the computer lab had multiple computers without mice, rendering them unusable. Internet facilities were also not available, hindering the students' access to digital resources.

In terms of resource allocation, the non-transfer of uniform/dress money was a concern. These issues collectively undermine the living and learning conditions for the students. Immediate actions are recommended to address these problems, ensuring a clean, safe, and conducive environment for the students.

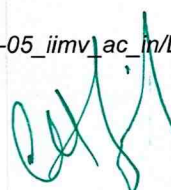
Based on the observations, several recommendations are made to improve the conditions at the school. Immediate steps should be taken to enhance the overall cleanliness of the premises, including the removal of gutka stains from walls and stairs and ensuring regular cleaning of washrooms. The drinking water vending machine should be relocated to a more hygienic area away from the boys' hostel washrooms. Hostel facilities require urgent repair, addressing water seepage issues, improving ventilation, and ensuring that all rooms are equipped with functional fans. The bedding provided to students should be replaced with clean bedsheets provided to students. In the computer lab, all computers must be equipped with essential peripherals, such as mouse, along with all the useless boxes and spare items currently available under the computer tables be shifted to other place. Additionally, internet facilities should be installed to provide students with access to digital learning resources. Also, the prompt transfer of uniform/dress money should be ensured to support students adequately.

Meeting with representatives of HR/ CSR heads of companies operating in Chandrapur district and with the officials from Tribal Research and Training Institute, (TRTI).

Date: 31st July 2024 from 9 AM | Location: Niyojan Bhawan, Chandrapur Collectorate,

Maharashtra

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Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), held a meeting with representatives from ACC Limited, Manikgarh Cement, and Emco Energy Ltd (GMR Group). The discussions centered around the utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds in accordance with Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013. This section mandates that companies give preference to local areas and surrounding regions for spending the amount earmarked for CSR activities.

During the meeting, it was emphasised to prioritise spending their CSR funds on projects that directly benefit the local communities where they operate. This includes initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure, education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities for the Scheduled Tribes (ST) in these areas. The importance of providing employment opportunities to the local youth was discussed. By prioritising the hiring of local candidates, the companies can contribute to reducing unemployment and fostering economic development within the community. This approach not only aligns with the legal requirements but also enhances the companies' relationships with the local population and promotes sustainable development.

Hon'ble Member has directed Project Officers from the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) to develop Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in these companies to ensure effective utilisation of CSR funds as mandated by Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013. These DPRs should focus on projects aimed at improving infrastructure, education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities for the local Scheduled Tribes (ST) communities and should prioritise local employment to foster economic development. The NCST expects timely submission and implementation of these plans to achieve sustainable development and upliftment of the ST community.


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Figure 3: Meeting with the HR/CSR Heads of Companies operating in Chandrapur and with the officials from Tribal Research and Training Institute.

After the meeting, the NCST team visited the Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRTI). The TRTI is responsible for the verification process of Scheduled Tribe validity certificates. During the visit, the commission was informed about the institute's working mandates and the detailed processes involved in verifying the authenticity of these certificates. This visit provided valuable insights into how TRTI ensures the integrity and accuracy of the certificate verification process, which is crucial for upholding the rights and entitlements of the Scheduled Tribes.

Meeting with District level officers at Niyojan Bhawan in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra

Date: 31st July 2024 from 11:30 AM onwards | Location: Niyojan Bhawan, Chandrapur
Collectorate

Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), held a district level meeting with the district level officers at Niyojan Bhawan in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra on 31.07.2024. The list of participants is at **Annexure I**.

Several issues were identified during the review of the situation in Chandrapur District, particularly concerning the Scheduled Tribes (STs). The quality of education in Ashram schools has been found lacking, which is a significant concern given the role these institutions play in the education and development of tribal children. It was also informed that the District Level Committee responsible for the distribution of *pattas* (land titles) is not working properly, resulting in a backlog of 430 cases (01.04.2021) at the DLC level. This has hindered the distribution of *pattas* to eligible tribal families, delaying their access to land rights.



Figure 4: Meeting with District level officers at Niyojan Bhawan in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra

The Commission has been informed by the representatives from ST community that a case from *Kotambi* Village, dating back to 30th April 1979, was highlighted, where despite the passage of several decades, no rehabilitation has been provided by Manekar Company to the affected tribal families. No compensation has been paid, and a false affidavit was reportedly submitted in the High Court claiming that compensation had already been disbursed. Given that this area falls under the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA). Additionally, there is a similar case of land transfer from tribal to non-tribal ownership, where 756 acres of land in an area with a 30% tribal population were transferred to some companies. This transfer raises concerns about the protection of tribal land rights and requires thorough investigation and potential reversal of the land transfer to safeguard the interests of the tribal community. It is recommended that district administration submit detailed information and take corrective action to ensure justice for the affected families.

The Commission observed staffing shortages in Government Ashram Schools and Hostels under the ITDP. In the Chandrapur Project, 90 posts remain vacant out of a total approved 312 posts, while in the Chimur Project, 32 posts are vacant against an approved 154 posts. It was noted that although the District Annual Tribal Component budget increased from ₹9702.83 lakh to ₹10342.61 lakh, there has been a decrease in budgetary allocations for key departments such as the Agricultural Development, the Chief Conservator of Forests in the Chandrapur Circle, and the Public Works (Tribal Section).

Regarding the Shabari Housing Scheme in the Chandrapur Project for 2023-24, it was observed that only 5909 houses were completed out of a target of 6200. Despite this, there have been complaints from petitioners indicating that many

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Scheduled Tribe (ST) individuals are not receiving the fund for houses they are entitled to.

The Superintendent of Police (SP) office informed the commission of 20 cases of atrocities against Scheduled Tribes, indicating ongoing issues of violence and discrimination

The Commission recommends that these issues be prioritised and that district authorities take action to resolve them, ensuring the protection of tribal rights, improving educational standards, and addressing land and compensation disputes in a manner that upholds justice and equity for the tribal communities in Chandrapur District.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

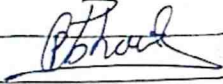
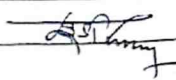



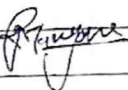
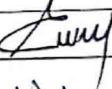

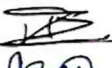


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आदावा बँडक

आज दिनांक 31 जुलै 2024 रोजी मा. मी. जताथु हुसेन माननीय सदस्य, राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जमाती आयोग, नवी दिल्ली यांचे अध्यक्षतेखाली नियोजन भवन, जिल्हाधिकारी चंद्रपूर येथे आदावा बँडक आयोजित करण्यात आला आहे. सदर सत्रेस खालीलप्रमाणे अधिकारी / कर्मचारी उपस्थित होते.

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2)	श्री. रविंद्र हाकरे	अपर आयुक्त, आ.वि. जागपूर	[Signature]
3)	श्री. विवेक जॉनसन दिना जगबंधू कापर पोलिस चौक	मुख्य कार्याकारी अधिकारी	[Signature]
4)	श्री. डी. कांत देवापांडे	अपर जिल्हाधिकारी	[Signature]
5)	श्री. विपिन पाटीवाले आनंदी गृही शेरा बाई	आयुक्त, महानगरपालिका उपचालक, तंडेबा उसडा मध्य वडा	[Signature]
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7)	Makram Kulkarni	Head - HR 7755917847	[Signature]
8)	Sai Wankhedkar Pratik Wankhedkar 7770095776	CSR head UltraTech Cement Ltd. Anwarpur UltraTech Cement Ltd. Anwarpur	[Signature]
9)	Kishan Karmarkar 7773584657	UltraTech Cement Ltd. Anwarpur	[Signature]
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12)	Dr. Prakash D. Sathe	Dist. Muzam Officer Chandrapur	[Signature]

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26)	एम. चरणम बोले	उपविभागीय अभियंता चंद्रपूर	
27)	J. C. Atreem	DEWMJ RWS Z P	
28)	Ashwini sonavane	Education officer CPU	
29)	Priyanka D. Raipure	A.W.C.O. (M.I.) Z.P.	
30)	G. T. Kalkar	ADWCO, Soil & Water Conservation	
31)	Prashant S. Shete	DDR CS Chandrapur	
32)	Manoj D. Gaudkar	APSI S.P. Office Chandrapur	
33)	संजय व. शिंदे	डि. मा. अ. (म. अ.) जि. प.	
34)	Rohan Mankar	PO MEDA Chandrapur	
35)	जे. एम. उमाळे	Dist Manager T.D.C. Chandrapur	
36)	पि. डी. गुण. लोखनि	Chief Conservator of Forest Chandrapur	

- 37) प्रजिष्ठा आगानकर विशेष अधिकारी
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- 38) Ithas Meshram Senior Consultant
Collector office, Chandrapur 
- 39) एल.डी. पोडुयल
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- अधिकारी, चंद्रपुर 
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जि. प. चंद्रपुर 
- 41) गणेश सोडुयल
अ. प्र. अ. जि. प. चंद्रपुर 
- 42) रोशनी मंगरे जि. व्यवस्थापक स्वतंत्र जि. प. चंद्रपुर 
- 43) श्री आकिनशा पुंड जिष्ठा क्रीडा अधिकारी, चंद्रपुर 
- 44) व्ही.पी. सामकर A.C.F (Dy. CF Chandrapur office) 
- 45) Nikita Thakare Education officer (sec) 
- 46) R.R. Bahadurkar A.D.S.O. Chandrapur 
- 47) प्रविण साठकर - प्रशासन अधिकारी - जि. प. 2
- 48) शरद कुंगरे प्रशासन, आदियाही तिकाल नागपुर