



# **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes**

**Visit report of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi to the Nagpur district of Maharashtra to review the implementation of Constitutional safeguards, welfare and development schemes for Scheduled Tribes on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

## Visit report of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi to the Nagpur of Maharashtra State to review the implementation of Constitutional safeguards, welfare and development schemes for Scheduled Tribes from 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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 and other Officials of the Commission chaired the meeting with the District Collector and other district officials of Nagpur district on 29.07.2024 to evaluate the working of constitutional safeguards available to the Scheduled Tribes in the Nagpur district and review implementation of various service safeguards and other developmental schemes/programmes for the welfare and development of Scheduled.

Before this meeting, Hon'ble met with the representatives of ST associations of the Nagpur district to have firsthand information of implementation of schemes/provisions of government for the safeguard and welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

### **Brief profile of the Nagpur District of Maharashtra**

Nagpur District, with a total population of 4,653,570, has a tribal population of 437,571, constituting 9.4% of the district's population. This represents 4.16% of Maharashtra's total Scheduled Tribe (ST) population. The tribal areas within the

district cover 1,137 square kilometers, reflecting a significant presence of tribal communities.

The district includes 217 villages under the Modified Area Development Approach (MADA), 90 villages under Mini MADA, and 96 villages under the Additional Tribal Sub-Plan, encompassing both MADA and Mini MADA areas. These figures highlight the importance of focused developmental efforts to address the needs of the tribal population in Nagpur District.

### Meeting with the representatives of ST associations in the Nagpur district.

*Date: 29 July 2024 | Time: 10:30 A.M. | Location: Ravi Bhawan, Nagpur*

Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, met with the ST organization in the morning at the Ravi Bhawan in Nagpur. The meeting aimed to address issues/problems concerning the Scheduled Tribes (ST) community in Maharashtra and discuss potential solutions for their socio-economic development.

During the meeting, concerns were raised regarding the widespread issuance of fake caste certificates in Maharashtra. The Commission was informed of the adverse impact this fraudulent activity has on genuine members of the Scheduled Tribe (ST) community, particularly in accessing reserved benefits in education, employment, and welfare schemes. To address this issue, the Commission recommends through compliance with the Supreme Court's judgment in the Jagdish Bahira case, including the implementation of more rigorous verification processes and the imposition of severe penalties for those found guilty of such offenses.



Figure 1: Meeting with representatives of the ST associations.

The Commission was also made aware that the ST category has been relegated to serial number 7 in the small cadre roster of Maharashtra Government

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jobs. This position is considered disadvantageous as it limits the opportunities for ST candidates in securing government employment. The commission recommends a reassessment of the roster system to ensure fair representation and opportunities for ST candidates.

Another issue highlighted was the infrequent meetings of the Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC), which has convened only once in the past five years. This lack of regular engagement hampers the effectiveness of the TAC in addressing the issues and concerns of the ST community. The commission urges the Maharashtra government to ensure the TAC meets more frequently and functions actively to address the needs of the tribal population.

Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member of the NCST, has desired a detailed report on the budgetary allocation and expenditure for tribal welfare schemes in the district along with three years report on CSR spending from the district administration. This report is important to evaluate the effectiveness of the funds allocated and ensure that they are being utilised efficiently for the intended purpose of uplifting the ST community.

### **Meeting with District Collector and district level officers of Nagpur district, Maharashtra**

*Date: 29 July 2024 | Time: 12:30P.M. | Location: Collectorate, Nagpur*

The district-level review meeting, chaired by Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), was convened at the collectorate office. The meeting was attended by the Nagpur District Collector, Superintendent of Police, CEO of Zila Parishad, and various departmental officials. The discussion covered a broad range of topics, including Tribal Welfare Schemes, Education, Health, Agriculture, the District Mineral Fund, Skill Development, and the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and the Prevention of Atrocities (PoA) Act, 1989.

*The list of participants is enclosed at Annexure I.*

Based on the presentation of the district administration, the Commission observed that under the Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsh Gram Yojana for the years 2021-22 and 2022-23, 30 villages in Nagpur district were covered, requiring a total of

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₹214.6 lakh. Of these, 11 villages received sanction through a Government Resolution (GR) dated 5th July 2023, with a budget of ₹94.36 lakh allocated for 29 specific works. The entire amount of ₹94.36 lakh was utilized, and the corresponding Utilization Certificates (UCs) have been submitted to concerned department.

Under the Shabari Adivasi Gharkul Yojana (Rural) for 2023-24, Nagpur district received a target of 5,000 housing units from the government. Out of this, 4,050 individuals were found eligible, and all 4,050 *Gharkuls* (houses) were sanctioned. However, the progress in disbursing funds and completing the construction has been varied. The first installment was paid to 2,773 beneficiaries, the second installment to 1,354, the third installment to 1,045, and the fourth installment to 438 beneficiaries. As of now, only 414 houses have been fully constructed. This indicates a need for expedited efforts to ensure that the remaining beneficiaries receive the necessary funds, and that the construction of the sanctioned houses is completed promptly.

Under the Shabari Adivasi Gharkul Yojana (Urban) for 2023-24, a target of 2,095 housing units was set for Nagpur district. However, despite this target, no applications for *Gharkul* (housing) have been received. This lack of applications raises concerns about the program's outreach and effectiveness in urban areas. It suggests potential gaps in awareness, accessibility, or eligibility criteria that may be preventing eligible beneficiaries from applying. Attention is needed to understand and address these barriers, ensuring that the intended benefits of the scheme reach the urban tribal population.

The District Annual Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for Nagpur district shows a trend of consistent budget allocations and high utilisation rates for the years 2021-22 through 2023-24. In 2021-22, a budget of ₹4,234.7 lakh was allotted, with a utilization rate of 99.46%. This pattern continued in 2022-23 with a budget of ₹5,372.99 lakh and a utilization of 99.9%, and in 2023-24, the same budget amount was allotted, achieving a utilization rate of 99.77%. In 2024-25 fiscal year ₹8,000 lakh was allotted with only 9% of the funds have been utilized till date.

Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, the Divisional Level Committee (DCC) of Nagpur Division has received a total of 2,137 appeals. Of these, 151 appeals have been approved, and 1,826 appeals have been rejected by the DCC. Currently, 160

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appeals remain pending at the DCC level. This data suggests that while the majority of appeals have been processed, a significant number have been rejected. The Commission recommends a thorough review of the rejected appeals to ensure.

The titles, recorded in the 7/12 extract, for affirming land ownership and associated rights for the tribal population in Maharashtra has a total of 1,025 land titles distributed. However, there is still a pendency of 224 titles yet to distributed at the Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) level.

During this meeting, the Tribal Welfare Department highlighted a provision of ₹5 lakh loans for self-employment initiatives, which currently do not include a subsidy component. Additionally, a separate loan scheme with a 4% interest rate is available for women empowerment, with interest subvention scheme.

The Superintendent of Police (SP) reported that 66 cases had been registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989, from 2020 to 2024. All but two of these cases were resolved within the stipulated 60-day period, with the remaining cases currently under High Court jurisdiction. The Commission commends this efficiency, and urges continued prompt action to ensure justice for the ST community.



Figure 2: Meeting with District level officers of Nagpur district

During the meeting, the average size of landholdings under FRA *Pattas* for tribals in the Nagpur district was also discussed. The district authority informed that it ranges from 3 to 5 hectares. There were concerns regarding the inadequacy of the ₹1.5 lakh amount provided under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) scheme

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for constructing houses. The Commission was requested to address this issue to the concerned stakeholders for reviewing and increasing the financial assistance under PMAY to meet actual construction costs, thus improving housing conditions for the tribal population.

The land issues were identified as hindering the construction of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in the district. The Commission advises the district administration to expedite the resolution of these land issues to facilitate the timely construction and operationalisation of EMRS, which are crucial for the educational upliftment of tribal children.

The district administration informed the Commission about an app-based soil testing initiative, which has successfully conducted 10,000+ tests this year. This technological intervention is commendable and provides valuable support to farmers by helping them understand soil health and improve agricultural productivity. The Commission encourages the continuation and expansion of such innovative practices to benefit more tribal farmers.

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

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जाटोतु हुसेन / Jatothu Hussain  
सदस्य / Member  
भारत सरकार / Government of India  
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग  
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes  
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

**Annexure I**आगवा बैठक



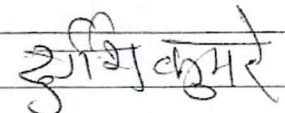



29/07/2024

मा. जातोचु दुयेंत, मा. सदस्य, राष्ट्रीय अनुसुचित  
जंगजाती आयोग, भारत सरकार, नवी दिल्ली यांचे  
अध्यक्षतेखाली आज दि. 29/07/2024 रोजी  
जिल्हाधिकारी कार्यालय, नागपूर येथे बैठक सकाळी  
11.00 वाजता आयोजित करवाने भाली.

अधिकार्यांचे नाव <del>अधिकार्यांचे नाव</del>	पदनाम	स्वाक्षरी
1. मा. जातोचु दुयेंत, रा. अनुसुचित जंगजाती आयोग भारत सरकार	मा. सदस्य	श्री/—
2. मा. डॉ. विपीन	मा. जिल्हाधिकारी नागपूर	
3. मा. पोलीस अधिसक		
4. मा. योम्या शर्मा,	मु. का. अ. जि. प. नागपूर	
5. मा. श्री. हाडा	मा. उपवनसंरक्षक	
6. <u>Minist Royal</u>	<u>DCP (Civil)</u> <u>Nagpur City</u>	<u>Royal</u>

क्र.सं.	आधिकारी/अधीकारी कोचे नाव	पदास	मो. नं.	खात
9)	Ganesh Walde	DDR Nagpur	9622237651	(C)
10)	Ravindra J. Manihare	ASAO Nagpur (Agriculture)	9420971630	Vijay
11)	Nimod Kapatwar	DIO	8329417188	Rajadus
12)	Shikant Mulekar	DWCO, Nag	9168080800	SR
13)	B.V. Sayam	DWCO ZP	9623403007	SR
14)	K. S. Ichha	E-E ZP	9595097811	SR
15)	Dr. Kavita A. More	DAHO ZPT Nagpur	7588630888	Chobram
16)	Dashrath Kulkarni	DC ATZ	9765726519	SR
17)	Dharyade Archana Ann Dantya Tikant	DAO (SCP) EE PWD	7709305013 9921996810	SR SR
18)	Dr. Anil D. Patil	DMD Nagpur	9822724535	Anand
19)	B. A. Kasewad	C.E.A. PWD DO. NO-3 Nag	9421721757	SR
20)	Rachana Meshram	Branch manager Shakti Finance tribal Finance Department	7744817944	SR

क्र.सं.	अधिकारी/अभिवादी सोबे नांव	पदावधि	फोन नं.	सहीरा
21)	Hemant W. Wadaskar	Dy. Executive Engineer MSEDCL NVC	7875760112	
22)	Anup N. Dhoke	Dy EE MSEDCL Nagpur (E)	7875760103	
23)	Kamlesh Chavan	E. Engg. (S.I.M.) N.M.C.	9823010329	
24)	Narendra Bawankar	Spl. Desy officer (B.C. & M)	9325343941	
25)	Shyam Kapse (N.M.C.)	Asst. Comr (GAD)	9850424249	
26)	Prashant S. Vaidya	FISH/MSD Dev Office Nagpur	9423422365	
27)	Dinesh Dhurve Rupsh Barte P.R. Kishorawat	MEDA MEDA D. EE NVC Div-2, Nagp	9860753630 — 9057478146	
28)	S. D. Dhote	CVC Nagpur	951783236	
29)	N. L. Dheyle	P.W.D. Div. No 1 Nagp.	9527603125	
30)	Anant Somkumar Nanda Z. Yerme	DVETO, Nagp G.M. TDC Nagpur	9422128000 9921349441	
31)	Vikas K. Gaud	MSK 2P. Nagp	8983409082	

- 32) Nitashram Kulkarni Retd. DEPRMAG 
- 33) Shantaram Madani ~~Retd.~~  9404808810  
9990616722
- 34)  Retd. Executive Engineer 9422113252
- 35) Dr. Anil Kumbhar, Retd. Joint Commissioner of JMW
- 36) Vijay Kokode Dy. E.O. (Pri) Z.P.N. 
- 37) Dr. Chetankumar Masaram, National Organizer, All India  
Agricultural Employees Federation, Nagpur 8605855699. 
- 38) Umesh Mandekar E.E., H. 9886337083 
- 39) Anil Borwar (S.O) District Supply Officer, Nagpur 9822948122
- 40) Housh Tode PO ITDP Nagpur 9822948122
- 41) Nilima Khadke PO ITDP Nagpur 7249596005