

Report on Meeting on Tribal Research Project Janta House on 22-7-09

Dr. H. Ansari

A meeting at Janta Guest House held in the afternoon on July 22, 2009 to discuss the Tribal issues in India and in Jharkhand and for identifying the thrust area for research and documentation. As Ministry of Tribal Affairs is willing to conduct a mega research to document the Tribal culture, way of life, low consuming energy and a lot.

Ghanshyam ji initiated the meeting describing the situation of Tribes in Jharkhand. He reported that there several tribes- Astriak, Asur, Dravid, Santhal, Ho, Uraon, but muda are considered to be the supreme over others. The politics of Jharkhad is devided on the types of Tribes supported to their leaders. As Sibor Soren is supported by Santhals, Babu Lal Marandi by also Santhal, Arjun Munda by Mundas, Madhu Koda by Ho. He also exclaimed that there are chances of Ethnic clash in Jharkhand as the Struggle going on between ho vs Santhal, Santhal Vs pahadia and similarly among others. So the Book authored by Ramdayal Munda "Aadi Dharm" is only describing the Munda's Tribe and rests are still remained to be explored and documented. There are chances that this book may lead to the division of Jharkahnd into 5 parts in future. So the name of the proposed project or book could be "Loka Dharma" or Documents of "Loka Aastha: instead of saying that "Aadi Dharma" which denotes only Munda Tribe.

Shri Vijay Pratp suggested that despite 400-500 Tribal rituals we should document the main four-five popular tribal ritual and should do research on that and do proper documentation. He forbids that we should not indulge in any controversy and clash over the tribal issues. Mainly we should go for exploration of Tribal thinking and their world view towards women, sex, wealth, energy, ecology, health etc. He suggested

that the said project could be called "The Documentation of Loka Dharma" (लोक धर्म का दस्तावेजीकरण)

Mr. Asit has suggested that some selected day-to-day Tribal. Prntices should be investigated and documented. However Ghanshyam jee has gone for more detail study. That from birth till death all rituals, prnetics should be explored and documented. As he said that the hatred of religion could not countered by religion. Have to evolve something different - the life- practices through which tribal community is living their lives.

Asit again suggested that we can learn the perspectives on wealth and economy from the Tribes. We can evaluate our problems through their value systems. Vijay Pratap again mentioned that their consciousness is different from ours. We can talk about ideals but their value system would take time to come out. So we should go for documentation and then for analysis. He suggested that this task could be given to those people who have research background particularly those holding PhD. degrees. We should publish the impact of NREGA without any delay. Data gathering should begun on the sex Ratio of Tribal population in India. We should categories our works into- Long term & Short term programmes. We should go for study on:

- 1- Users Right of Tribes.
2. Water, animal, railways land authority, etc.
3. Carbon keepers- how carbon keepers concept should link with the tribes. How to understand Carbon Trading? For that we should lobbying for to the environment ministry. The global carbon mapping should be done.

The Proposed of the Research cold contain following topics under the first line of research.

- 1- **Sex Ration:** from 1901 to 2001 or till date. For that NIC, census, C.D. could be used. Vidhya Bhushan could be consulted.

2- **Lok Astha:** Tribal decision making and belief system regarding Birth, Death, Nature, Community, Society, etc.

3- **Prominent Traditions of Tribes (मुखर परस्परा)** Their main dominant tradition should be documented.

For the proposed Research on Advisory Panel was proposed. The proposed names of the Adv. panel are following:

- 1- Prof. B. Roy Burman (Patron)
- 2- Prof. Ramdyal Munda (Co-chair Person)
- 3- Prabhash Joshi (Co-chair Person)
- 4- Dr. Roze (Member)
- 5- Ramanika Gupta
- 6- Prof. Vergenes Xaxa
- 7- Prof. Veer Bharat Talwar
- 8- K.C. Tudu
- 9- Ghanshyam Jee
- 10- Harsh Mandar
- 11- Prof. Suresh
- 12- Prof. Shail Maya Ram
- 13- Prof. Rajeev Bhargva
- 14- Prof. D.L. Seth
- 15- Prof. B.C. Mungekar
- 16- Prof. Andre Bentley

A team of Researchers was also proposed comprising the following researchers:

- 1- Vasweek jee (Researcher)
- 2- Kumar Suresh Singh (Researcher) (List of Tribes)
- 3- Uma jee (Chief Researcher)

- 4- C.R. Vijay (Researcher)
- 5- Sabya Sachi (Researcher)
- 6- Narendra Bastar (Researcher)
- 7- Veer Singh Sinkul (Researcher)
- 8- Asit Das (Researcher Especially on Narmada Vally and Dongaria Kore)

Some special responsibility was also declared on following issues and persons:

- 1- Asit- Left Economic Socialism.
- 2- Nepal/South Asia Democratic Solidarity Centre should be established.
- 3- Lokayan Features should be started.
- 4- Political-alternate politics nature of future politics etc.