

Coal India Limited and NSTFDC Sign MoU to Empower Tribal Students through Eklavya Model Residential Schools

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In a significant step towards empowerment of tribal students, Coal India Limited (CIL) under the Ministry of Coal and National Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at empowering tribal students enrolled in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS). The MoU signing ceremony was held on today at National Tribal Research Institute, New Delhi in the august presence of Union Minister of Coal & Mines Shri G. Kishan Reddy and Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Jual Oram.



The project titled “Empowering Tribal Students in Eklavya Model Residential Schools through Digital Access, Career Mentorship, Menstrual Hygiene, and Teacher Capacity Building” aims to harness the power of education, technology, and holistic development to uplift tribal youth in India. Key components of the project include following:

- Digital Education: Distribution of desktops, UPS, and tablets to enhance digital access.
- Career Mentorship: Structured programs to guide tribal students in making informed career choices.
- Menstrual Hygiene: Installation of sanitary napkin vending machines and incinerators to promote health and dignity for girl students.



In his address, Union Minister of Coal & Mines Shri G. Kishan Reddy appreciated the efforts of CIL in bridging gaps in learning, health, and livelihoods of tribal communities around the mining areas. He emphasised that the vision of a Viksit Bharat can only be realized when tribal communities are uplifted. Minister highlighted Ministry of Coal's commitment to a whole-of-government approach for tribal welfare. Shri Reddy mentioned that the Eklavya Model Residential Schools represent a foundational step in preparing a modern, empowered generation with access to quality education. He expressed that the collaboration will strengthen the schools and benefit tribal students.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Jual Oram welcomed the initiative and support received from the CIL and expressed confidence that more companies will come forward with dedicated CSR support for tribal education and development.



Shri Vinay Ranjan, Director (HR), Coal India Limited, in his address, reiterated that CIL, under the aegis of

the Ministry of Coal, stands at the forefront of nation-building by going beyond coal production and actively contributing to social development in coal-bearing regions. He highlighted the transformative impact of CIL's CSR programs on education, health, skill development, and women's empowerment in tribal areas, emphasizing how partnerships with institutions like EMRS and NSTFDC create lasting opportunities for tribal youth.



Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal Ms. Rupinder Brar expressed appreciation for all stakeholders involved in making the MoU signing a success. She emphasized importance of collaborative efforts between CIL, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and other government agencies in ensuring that CSR initiatives reach tribal students effectively. Ms. Brar highlighted that such partnerships exemplify the vision of inclusive development where the upliftment of marginalized communities becomes a shared responsibility. She also highlighted that MoU signing was just a beginning and all concerned must work together to ensure successful implementation and achievement of set targets.

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