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संयुक्त सचिव
Anant Prakash Pandey, IFS
Joint Secretary



भारत सरकार
जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs

D.O. No.18015/12/2025-DAJGUA

Dear *Li*,

Date: 25.08.2025

As our nation commemorates **Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh (15th November 2024 - 15th November 2025)**—a year dedicated to honouring the history, culture, and contributions of tribal communities—the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched the **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan** on **10th July 2025**. This Abhiyan represents the **world's largest tribal grassroots leadership and responsive governance movement**, with an outreach to nearly **1 lakh villages across 550 tribal-dominated districts**.

2. The Abhiyan seeks to mobilize more than **20 lakh Adi Karmayogis**—comprising officials and functionaries at the Central, State, District, Block, and Village levels along with youth leaders and community mobilizers, who together will act as the vanguard of change. Through a structured training cascade (State, District, and Block Master Trainers) and the operationalization of **Adi Seva Kendras (Single-Window Service Centres)**, the Abhiyan is designed to:

- Strengthen **last-mile service delivery** by **saturating flagship government schemes** in tribal habitations.
- Enable the formulation of **Village Vision 2023** and **Village Action Plans (VAPs)** through participatory Gram Sabhas, giving voice to tribal communities in their own development.
- Facilitate change management and capacity building of **frontline workers and field functionaries**.
- Promote **convergence across multiple departments** to ensure efficiency and accountability.

3. As a part of the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan village vision building exercise involves participatory involvement of villages, CSO, village level official and institutions.

4. Such exercise are aligned with various Fieldwork/ Rural Immersion Programs and form part of the curriculum for many Universities and Colleges in India. The Ministry believes that this Mission posits a unique solution to the classic public policy challenge of responsive governance and development of pan-department synergy.

5. The role of students in the Module would primarily take place at the block and village level. Broadly, it would include:

- Aiding Public Officials in their undertakings,
- Data collection and analysis vis-à-vis the Village Workbook Module,
- Village Transit-Mapping, Vision Building
- Gap Finding Exercises within the Mission.

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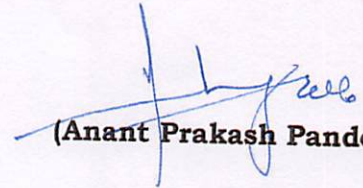
6. Such engagement will be not only helpful towards our societal commitment to tribal welfare but also help ensure that the outcomes of the Abhiyan - empowering tribal Gram Sabhas, operationalise Adi Seva Kendras, and strengthen democratic participation, while also being an incredible learning opportunity for the students.

7. The Ministry earnestly seeks your kind support to involve students from your prestigious cohorts, to actively engage in this historic Abhiyan. Enclosed herewith are the Concept Note and materials on the Abhiyan for ready reference.

Thank you for your kind attention and continued support.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Anant Prakash Pandey)

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Concept Note

Adi Vidyarthi: A Participatory Learning Module in the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan

Executive summary

The following is a proposal for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to consider integrating a participatory learning component to the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan program (hereafter, AKA)- primarily involving Universities and Institutions that study, teach, and research on Public Policy, Development Studies, and related fields of study- suggestively, focusing on Postgraduate students. It argues that AKA posits a unique solution to the classic public policy challenges of responsive governance, and developing pan-department synergy, thus making itself an important field of study.

AKA- The Mission

Over the last decade, the Scheduled Tribe welfare budget has witnessed a fivefold increase—from ₹25,000 crore to ₹1,24,000 crore—supporting 200+ schemes across 41 Ministries. Yet, the primary bottleneck today is not funding or policy, but the capacity to deliver services effectively at the last mile, and the absence of a first-mile approach grounded in local leadership, community participation, and cultural context.

While pathbreaking initiatives such as the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, PM-JANMAN, and the National Sickle Cell Elimination Mission reflect unprecedented political commitment, a crucial gap persists—the lack of involved grassroots governance staff and community-led, demand-driven solutions.

At its core, the Abhiyan reimagines governance in tribal regions—not as a top-down service delivery mechanism, but as a bottom-up, community-driven movement. It positions the tribal citizen not merely as a beneficiary, but as a leader of change, custodian of tradition, and co-creator of development—rooted in dignity, identity, and agency.

Intended Outcomes

The Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan seeks to bridge the lack of involved grassroots governance staff and community-led, demand-driven solutions, by building a cadre of 20 Lakh Changemakers across 1 lakh tribal-dominated villages in 30 States and Union Territories. Further, it seeks to:

- Establish 1 Lakh Adi Sewa Kendra – Single Window Tribal Service Centres
- Facilitate Village Vision 2030 Planning & Development Action Plan
- Promote last-mile convergence & effective service delivery
- Capture & amplify voices of tribal communities

Village Level Outcomes: Impact Where It Matters Most

Following are the stated village-level outcomes of the mission:

100% Saturation of Government Services

Every eligible Household receives benefits in housing, nutrition, education, health, and livelihoods.

Village Visioning 2030 through Wall Art & Investment through DA-JGUA

Community Members Co-create Vision @2030 with Development Goals and depict them as public murals. State machinery aligns resources to these aspirational blueprints.

Adi Sewa Centers: Single Window Service Centers

In Every Village Easy, establishing accessible support hubs offering:

- Scheme-wise Information in once place
- Grievance Redressal Mechanisms
- Joint Visit Calendar for Govt. Teams, thereby mapping of visits of Department Officials
- Assigned Team Captain Department per village

Weekly Tribal Seva Hour

Every week, preferably on Monday, all departments commit one hour to engage directly with tribal communities.

What is Unique About the AKA?

This initiative aims to institutionalize a new model of governance that is responsive, culturally rooted, problem-solving, and people-led—transforming tribal villages into exemplars of bottom-up development, with over 10 crore tribal citizens directly benefiting through multiple targeted interventions while converging seven departments. (TWD, Health, Jal Shakti, Education, WCD, Forest, Rural Development.) While the question of how to make public officials more empathetic and citizen-focused is common across many sectors and regions, the answer this mission comes up with is quite unique.

This brings us to the main reason as to why a participatory learning module should be integrated into the mission: Achieving behavioral change in Indian public officials, and through it, achieving saturation of public services, is a **new idea**- it opens a new world of what is possible within the Indian public policy landscape.

Integrating a Participatory Learning Module: Key Objectives

The primary objective of the Adi Vidyarthi Mission would be allowing the students to work towards the intended goals of the Adi Karmayogi Mission:

- Aid in strengthening the **last-mile service delivery by saturating flagship government schemes** in tribal habitations.
- Aid in the formulation of **Village Vision 2023 and Village Action Plans (VAPs)**.
- Aid in ground-level **primary data collection and analysis** via usage of **Village Workbook Modules**.
- Facilitate change management and capacity building of **frontline workers and field functionaries**.
- Studying and aiding in **convergence across multiple departments** to ensure efficiency and accountability

The program would also allow for student-insight into important questions, such as:

- Examination of replicability of the AKA to other thematic sectors
- Identification of existent gaps in the mission

Finally, the module would seek to:

- **Allow for a greater degree of reflection and engagement on tribal communities and the challenges they face in the Indian socio-political landscape, in Indian universities and educational institutions.**
- **Positioning development of tribal communities as an important site of scholarly studies for the nation's upcoming generation of Social Science scholars.**

It may be noted that many Universities and Colleges already have courses around Immersive learning and could potentially readily integrate into the module. It is proposed that the Ministry may engage with such universities.

ADI VIDYARTHI

A Participatory Learning Module within the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan



The Ministry of Tribal Affairs invites Universities that work on Public Policy, Development Studies, Social Work, Tribal Welfare, and related fields of study, to be a part of the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan.

We invite University Students to:



- ✓ Work in strengthening the last-mile service delivery by saturating flagship government schemes in tribal habitations.
- ✓ Participate in the formulation of Village Vision 2030 and Village Action Plans (VAPs).
- ✓ Aid in ground-level primary data collection and analysis via usage of Village Workbook Modules.
- ✓ Facilitate change management and capacity building of frontline workers and field functionaries.
- ✓ Study and aid in convergence across multiple departments to ensure efficiency and accountability

Reach out to:

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