



Speech of Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
Participates in Interaction with Chenchus
(Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group)
at Tribal Museum in Srisailem, Kurnool District
at 11.25 AM on 22nd December 2019

Guests on the dais, Chenchu Peddalaku, Mahila Sangha
Sabhyulaku SODARA SODAREE MANULU ANDARIKI
NAMASKARAM.

EE ROJU MEETHO 'MUKHA MUKHI' KARYA KRAMAMLO
PALGONTUNNANDUKU NAAKU CHALA SANTOSHAMGA UNDI.

This is my second visit to a tribal area after assuming charge
as Andhra Pradesh Governor and I am very happy to be here
with you all.

I have come here to personally see and witness the conditions
of tribal population in the agency areas and also to know from
you for any specific requirement, so that I can advise the
Government to take action to fulfil your needs.

As you may be aware, I come from Odisha State which has a
tribal population of 95.90 lakhs, constituting 22.8 percent of
the State's population, as such I am well aware of the problems
faced by Tribal people living in agency areas.

The tribal culture and traditions have developed over a period
of thousands of years and we learn a great lesson of
sustainability from the way of life of tribals. The biggest
challenge for the Government today is to create a balance
between exposing the tribals to the modern way of living and

at the same time preserving the traditional cultural unique practices of the tribals.

I know that Chenchus are a special and unique Particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PvTG) tribal community inhabiting the Nallamala Tiger Reserve forest region and have close association with Lord Mallikarjuna Swamy. Chenchus take pride in describing themselves as children of the Nallamala forest as they have been living in the Nallamala forest for centuries and enjoy a symbiotic relationship with the Nallamala forest. Chenchus depend purely on the collection of Non-Timber Forest Produce such as fruits, roots and honey and practice hunting for food gathering.

I am aware that Chenchu community is different from other Tribal and PvTG communities as they are still to adopt the modern ways of livelihood opportunities. I have been informed that after implementation of various policies and schemes, Chenchus are also making the transition to newer forms of lively.

Government is giving top priority to Health and education as the important aspects to focus for the integrated development of tribal areas. Adequate access to sanitation, drinking water and food is also needed in the tribal villages. Special arrangements need to be made to reach out to them and ensure services and delivery of welfare programmes to tribal

people, as many of the villages are located in inaccessible terrain.

Trained health workers should be deployed to the villages to create awareness on hygiene, nutrition, infant and maternal health and to follow-up with pregnant women, the elderly and those with chronic diseases. It is also required to set up and operate Health sub-centres and mobile clinics with a doctor and a nurse and they should visit three or four villages every day.

Many villages have schools but children do not attend them regularly due to inaccessibility as well as due to lack awareness among the tribal population on education.

The Government of India as well as the State Government have been making efforts through financial support and infrastructure development to bring education to the door steps of the chenchu people and for that purpose Tribal Welfare Residential Schools, Ashram Schools, Ekalavya High Schools etc. have been opened in the most interior parts of tribal areas.

My request to all my Chenchu brothers and sisters is send your children to schools and let them benefit from the facilities provided by the Government. Once educated your children can get better employment opportunities and serve the community, society and the nation.

The aim of the Government is to provide to each and every tribal area access to required medical amenities.

My advice to the Chenchu youth is to explore new avenues offered by higher education, prepare for competitive examinations, upgrade skills, interact with different communities and work towards the development of community and the nation in a productive manner. The youth should participate in the skill development programmes organised by the State Government and equip themselves with the skills required to face the world.

I have been informed that the areas inhabited by Particularly vulnerable tribal group (PvTG) is not declared as Scheduled area, however this area does need to be covered under the scheduled area and efforts should be made by the government in this regard.

Welfare of the tribals and their development is the top most priority of the Government and as an Administrator to the Scheduled areas, I have a larger responsibility to play by not only understanding the issues related to tribal welfare and development but also proactively influence the State Government and the Central Government, to take forward the initiatives related to tribal issues to ensure welfare on one side combined with development of area as a whole.

I am happy to be here today and I will continue my interaction with the tribal people to enable myself to contribute towards progress of the tribal community.

EE ROJU MEETHO MUKHAA MUKHI KARYA KRAMAMLO
PALGONA DANIKI NAAKU AVAKASAM ICHINA MEE ANDARIKI
DHYANYA VADAALU.

Jai Hind