



PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan

For Prelims: [Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan \(PMJUGA\)](#), [Tribal Communities](#), [Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes \(DAPST\)](#), [Poshan Abhiyan](#), [Forest Rights Act, 2006 \(FRA\)](#), [Immunisation](#), [Swadesh Darshan scheme](#), [Sickle cell Disease](#), [Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana](#).

For Mains: Government policies & interventions for welfare of tribal communities.

Source: [PIB](#)

Recently, the [Union Cabinet](#) approved [Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan \(PMJUGA\)](#) for improving the socio-economic condition of [tribal communities](#).

What are the Key Facts About the PMJUGA?

- **About PMJUGA:** It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** for the welfare of tribal families in **tribal-majority villages** and [aspirational districts](#).
- **Target Areas and Coverage:** It will cover **549 districts and 2,740 blocks** spread across all tribal majority villages across **30 States/UTs**.
 - It will cover around **63,000 villages** benefitting more than **5 crore tribal people**.
 - According to the [2011 Census](#), India has a **Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of 10.42 crore (8.6%)**, consisting of over **705 tribal communities**.
- **Objective:** It envisions fulfilling **critical gaps** in social infrastructure like health, education, livelihood, through **different schemes of Government of India** by convergence and outreach.
- **Goals of the Mission:** It comprises **25 interventions** which will be implemented by **17 ministries** through funds allocated to them under the Development [Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes \(DAPST\)](#) in the next 5 years to achieve the following goals.
 - **Developing Enabling Infrastructure:**
 - **Pucca house for Eligible Households with Other Entitlements:** Eligible ST households shall have access to **pucca housing** under the [PMAY \(Rural\)](#) with availability of **tapped water (Jal Jeevan Mission)** and **electricity supply**. Eligible ST households shall also have access to [Ayushman Bharat Card \(PMJAY\)](#)
 - **Improving Village Infrastructure:** Ensuring all weather **road connectivity** to ST majority villages ([PMGSY](#)), providing access to **mobile connectivity (Bharat Net)** and internet, infrastructure for improving **health, nutrition, and education (National Health Mission, Samagra Shiksha and Poshan Abhiyan)**.
 - **Promotion of Economic Empowerment:** It focuses on **skill development**, entrepreneurship promotion and enhanced livelihood (self-employment) through providing access to **training (Skill India Mission)**, marketing support from the **Tribal Multipurpose Marketing Centre (TMMC)** and assistance in agriculture, animal husbandry, and fishery sectors for [Forest Rights Act, 2006 \(FRA\)](#) patta holders.
 - **Universalisation of Access to Quality Education:** Efforts will be made to increase the [Gross Enrollment Ratio \(GER\)](#) in school and higher education and make quality

education affordable and accessible to **ST students (Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan)** by setting up **tribal hostels** in schools at district/block level.

- **Healthy lives and Dignified Ageing:** It aims to reach towards the national standards in **JMR, MMR** and coverage of **immunisation** through **Mobile Medical Units** in areas where the **sub centre** is more than **10 km in plain areas** and **5 kms in Hilly areas**.
- **Mapping and Monitoring:** The tribal villages covered under the mission would be mapped on **PM Gati Shakti Portal** with the **gaps identified** by the concerned ministry for its scheme specific requirements and the **best performing** districts will be awarded.

Note:

- The DAPST is a **strategy for tribal development** in India. The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** and **41 other ministries** and departments **allocate funds** to tribal development projects under **DAPST**.
 - These projects include education, **health, agriculture, irrigation, roads, housing, electrification, and employment**.

What are the Innovative Schemes to Promote Livelihood amongst Tribals under PMJUGA?

- **Tribal Home Stay:** To boost **tourism** in tribal areas and provide **alternative livelihoods**, the Ministry of Tourism will promote **1,000 homestays** under the **Swadesh Darshan scheme**.
 - Villages with tourist potential will receive funding for **5-10 homestays**, with each household eligible for **Rs 5 lakh to build two new rooms, up to Rs 3 lakh for renovating existing rooms, and Rs 5 lakh for community needs**.
- **Sustainable Livelihood for Forest Right Holders:** The mission places a special focus on **22 lakh Forest Rights Act, 2006 patta holders** in forest areas. It aims to expedite the **recognition of forest rights**, empower tribal communities, and provide sustainable livelihoods through various governmental schemes.
- **Improving infrastructure of Govt residential Schools and Hostels:** The initiative includes improving the infrastructure of **tribal residential schools, hostels, and ashram schools** to enhance local educational resources, promote enrollment, and retain students in these institutions.
- **Advanced facilities for diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease: Centre of Competence (CoC)** would be set up in **AIIMS** and premier Institutes in the States where **Sickle cell disease** is prevalent.
 - CoC shall have the latest facilities, technology, personnel and research capabilities for **prenatal diagnosis**, at a cost of **Rs 6 crore/CoC**.
- **Tribal Multipurpose Marketing Centre (TMMCs):** 100 TMMCs will be set up for effective **marketing of tribal products** and for improving marketing infrastructure, awareness, branding, packaging, and transportation facilities.

Scheduled Tribes



STs constitute **8.6%** of the total population of India (Census 2011).



There are over 730 Scheduled Tribes **notified** under Article 342 of the Constitution of India.



Article 342 of the **Indian** Constitution outlines the procedures for specifying Scheduled Tribes (STs).



Article **275(1)** of the Constitution of India guarantees grants-in-aid from the Consolidated Fund of India each year for promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.



Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (**PVTGs**) are more vulnerable among the tribal groups. Among the 75 listed PVTGs, the highest number is found in Odisha.



Bhil is the largest tribal group followed by the Gonds.



Madhya Pradesh has the highest tribal population in India (Census 2011).



What is the Need of PMJUGA?

- **Poverty:** Tribal communities often live in **poverty**, with limited access to resources. The erstwhile **Planning Commission** estimated that the percentage of ST individuals living below the poverty line was **45.3% (2011-12) in rural areas** and **24.1% (2011-12) in urban areas**.
 - Under PMJUGA, **Skilling Centers** will be opened in tribal districts for **employment** generation and reduction in poverty.
- **Land Rights and Displacement:** Many tribal communities face **displacement** due to development projects, **mining, and deforestation**. The tribal population often lacks formal land titles, leading to insecure tenure and exploitation.
 - PMJUGA will issue **22 lakh FRA patts** under **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006** in recognition of their **land rights**.
- **Low Literacy Rate:** Literacy rates among tribal populations are **significantly lower** than the national average.

- As per **Census 2011**, literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes (STs) was **59%** whereas the **overall literacy rate was 73%** at all India level.
- **1000 hostels** will be constructed under the **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)** for affordable education.
- **Health Issues:** As per the recent report of [National Family Health Survey \(NFHS-5\) 2019-21](#), the prevalence of [stunting, wasting and underweight](#) among tribal children is **40.9%, 23.2% and 39.5% respectively**. It is significantly **higher** than the national average of **35.5%, 19.3% and 32.1%**.
 - High incidence of **Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)** is also seen among the tribal people.
 - The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will provide **Mobile Medical Units** under the **National Health Mission**.
- **Cultural Erosion and Identity:** Many tribal communities struggle to maintain their **traditional practices** amidst external pressures like **rapid urbanisation** and **globalisation**.
 - Under [Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana](#), model villages will be created while preserving **cultural identity**.
- **Lack of Awareness about Government Schemes:** Despite their poverty, many tribal people are largely **unaware of BPL cards, ration cards, or job cards** for 100-day employment schemes. As a consequence, they **remain deprived** from such benefits.
 - The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology will promote various [Digital India initiatives](#) for awareness generation.

What are the Other Government Initiatives for Scheduled Tribes?

- [PM-Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan \(PM-JANMAN\) Scheme](#)
- [TRIFED](#)
- [Digital Transformation of Tribal Schools](#)
- [Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups](#)
- [Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana](#)
- [Eklavya Model Residential Schools](#)

Conclusion

The **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA)** aims to uplift tribal communities through **sustainable development**, enhancing infrastructure, **livelihoods, and access to services**. By **promoting skill development and self-sufficiency**, it seeks to improve education, healthcare, and overall quality of life, bridging the development gap and empowering tribal voices in India.

Drishti Mains Question:

Examine the key challenges faced by tribal communities in India. What are the various government schemes and policies to address these issues.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. Under which Schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void? (2019)

- (a) Third Schedule
- (b) Fifth Schedule
- (c) Ninth Schedule
- (d) Twelfth Schedule

Ans: (b)

Q. The Government enacted the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act in 1996. Which one of the following is not identified as its objective? (2013)

- (a) To provide self-governance
- (b) To recognize traditional rights
- (c) To create autonomous regions in tribal areas
- (d) To free tribal people from exploitation

Ans: (c)

Mains

Q. How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes? (2015)

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