No.19012/03/2014-Education
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(Education Division)

Room No.401, 'B' Wing
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 27th April, 2015

To,

The Principal Secretary/Secretary/Commissioner

Tribal Welfare Department/Social Welfare Department

All States/Union Territories (as per list attached)

Subject: Role of Teachers in school education in tribal areas - mentoring and counselling.

Madam/Sir,

Teachers are the corner stone of any educational system. In the case of education of tribal children, teachers are the most critical resources who can contribute as counsellers for students and their parents. Linking school education with life in general and the needs and aspirations of the tribal communities in particular, is the most important step that requires serious attention.

2. In view of above mentioned concerns, I am directed to request all the States and Union Territories to identify two suitable teachers in each school of tribal areas preferably on a voluntary basis through ITDA/ITDP or District Tribal Welfare officer. These teachers should be given the role of spotting the unique talent & potential of their ST students for higher studies, sports, art & craft, vocational/livelihood/ skill training etc, so that the students having such natural talents could be counselled, mentored and supported for pursuing their respective studies, skill training and career. They can also help in preventing drop outs and also in bringing dropouts back into the education system. Teachers may also be provided the role in enrollment of all the out of school ST students into educational system.

3. All such identified teachers may be provided appropriate training, orientation and incentives for these expanded roles by drawing resources from schemes of the line Ministry of HRD, from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and also from respective State Governments and UT Administrations. A line of confirmation and the procedure introduced may please be shared with the Ministry, so that the same could in turn be shared with other States and Union Territories.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Biswaranjan Sasmal)
Director (Education)
Tel. 011-23070508

Copy to:

1. **Project officers and Heads of all the ITDPs/ITDAs in the country.**
2. **Group e-mail of ITDAs/ITDPs**
3. **JS(A)/JS(MKP) for information**
4. **Secretary, TA for information**
5. **Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy**
6. **DS(PCV) – for guard file**
7. **Website Manager**