

**Minutes of the meeting to discuss Action Plan of Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs), Centres of Excellence (CoE) and Tribal Chairs on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 at 10.30 AM in the Conference Hall of Central Secretariat Library, 'G' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.**

....

A meeting with heads of Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) and Centres of Excellence (COEs) was convened on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 at 10.30 AM in the Conference Room at the Central Secretariat Library, 'G' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss re-defining the roles and responsibilities of the TRIs and COEs, review their performances and to revisit and strengthen research activities. This was chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA). List of participants is enclosed at Annex-I.

2. At the outset JS (MKP) welcomed the members and mentioned about the objectives of the meeting. He told the meeting that though Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) had been set up in States for providing planning inputs to the State Governments for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes in the state, these institutions had become weak and lost direction over a period of time. He said that TRIs are even not publishing journals, which reflects that priority and commitment is missing. He also narrated the roles of Centres of Excellence recognized by the Ministry and hoped that the meeting would help in setting the focus right and result in better deliverables.

3. Secretary (TA) while addressing the participants highlighted the importance of role TRIs in formulation of policy, planning and implementation of development schemes for tribals. He expressed concern about the negativity that has emerged about the functioning of the TRIs and hoped that TRIs would overcome the challenge. He underlined that critical areas like education, health, nutrition, trafficking, livelihood needed special attention for overall development of the tribal and TRIs need to focus their activities around these issues.

4. The meeting then had following issues for discussion:

**a. Review of activities of TRIs:**

The Directors of all TRIs submitted summaries of activities undertaken by them during the last three years. All the TRIs had followed the guidelines issued by the Ministry regarding Common

