No.15025/1/2017-TRI(pt)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs  
(TRI Division)  

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated: 6.8.2018

To,

(As per list attached)

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of National Level Committee on Tribal Museums held on 30.07.2018– Reg.

Sir/Madam

I am directed to refer to the captioned subject and to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the meeting of National Level Committee held on 30.07.2018 for review of progress in the matter of setting up of museums for tribal freedom fighters in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh besides to examine the proposals for setting up such museums/memorials in the States of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and West Bengal under the scheme, “Support to TRIs” for the year 2018-19.

Yours faithfully,

(Nadeem Ahmad)  
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Encls: As above  

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(ii) TRI Director / in Charge of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and West Bengal.

Copy for kind information to:
   i. PS to MTA
   ii. PSs to MoS(TA)

Internal Circulation:
   i. PPS to Secretary (TA) / JS(A) / JS&FA, MoTA
   ii. Tech. Dir (NIC), MoTA, with the request to upload it on the Ministry’s website
Minutes of the meeting of National Level Committee on setting up of Museums/ Memorials for Tribal freedom fighters held on 30/07/18

A meeting of the National Level Committee (NLC) was held under the chairmanship of Secretary(Tribal Affairs) on 30.07.2018 for review of progress on construction of tribal museums/memorials for freedom fighters in States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh besides to examine proposals for similar projects in the U.T/States of Andaman & Nicobar, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan. Telangana. A power point presentation was made by TRI Division of MoTA indicating current status of various proposals.

List of participants is furnished at Annexure - I.

2. During the meeting, following aspects were reiterated by the Committee particularly for those States which are submitting proposals for second phase.

- Popular tourist destinations having sizeable footfalls to be chosen for setting up of Tribal Memorial / Museum;
- Museum concept should be inspirational and based on State of the Art Technology;
- Story line to be developed in the first place for each and every component to be included in the proposal. Consultations, where-ever required, to be made with the organisations having expert domain knowledge like Indian Council of Historical Research, National Science Centre, National Museum, National Archives of India etc;
- Landscaping of museum sites though necessary, the focus should not be lost on underlying storyline with the architecture in sync. Walk through areas to prominently display tribal freedom fighters with proper narrative;
- The museum to have an overarching theme of role of Tribals in freedom movements/revolts against British gelling with Pan-India gamut.
- Technology should support presentations in the museum in local language, Hindi & English.
- Efforts to be made for sharing of ideas, information and technology with other States where similar museums are to come up;
- All the proposed constructions shall be complaint with accessibility for Persons with Disabilities;
- Audio/Video material and documentation of other States’ freedom fighters/tribal uprisings should be shared with respective States, so that they can gainfully make use of them;
- All the six States that are to take up the construction of tribal freedom fighter museums and have been provided with funding by MoTA must communicate the commitment (including financial) of the respective State Governments to the project on priority.

The National Level Committee thereafter took up the review of the progress made by the States whose proposals were sanctioned by MoTA in the first phase comprising of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Out of these, the tribal freedom fighters museums in Gujarat and in Jharkhand are National Museums. Proposals for second phase were reviewed thereafter.

3. Representatives of States made power point presentations on their proposals. The observations of the Committee being as under:
NATIONAL MUSEUMS:

3.1 Gujarat:

The National museum a Gujarat is proposed to come at Garudeshwar, Rajpipla and aims at displaying the contribution of all prominent tribal freedom fighters representing 24 States in India. A treatise of all tribal freedom revolts before independence has been compiled by Gujarat which is currently in the process of being vetted by ICHR. Overall Presentation of Museum (i.e Design, Curation, History & IT) has been reportedly submitted to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Gujarat and is likely to be finalized in early August with the RFP (including the detailed script/storyline) getting ready in three weeks. The Committee suggested that the tribal folk dances and songs from various regions should form an integral part of the scheme of things. Mutual exchange of information between States to be encouraged. While reviewing the proposals for State museums particularly in NE Region, the Committee found value in highlighting the role and sacrifices of Women Tribal Freedom Fighters. The target for completion of Museum in Gujarat is 3 years.

3.2 Jharkhand:

The National museum is to be set up at Ranchi. Discussions were made through Video Conferencing with representatives of Government of Jharkhand. The Prl. Secretary informed about changes having been made in the DPR following the previous visit of STA. It was intimated that the India Trust for Rural Heritage was engaged for conservation purpose. State Government is also expected to place the proposal for conservation and improvement works of Birsa Munda Jail with Central funds and likelihood of RFP being floated in the month of August '18. The adjacent area of Jail museum is proposed to be developed with State funds. Further, it was placed before the Committee that there is a programme of Prime Minister to the State in the month of September, 2018.

STATE MUSEUMS:

3.3 Chhattisgarh:

The State level museum for tribal freedom fighters is to come up at Naya Raipur. The Special Secretary (ST & SC Development Department) Chhattisgarh Government was advised to ensure that RFP is prepared keeping in view the authenticated storyline with related architecture and leveraging of best technology in the field and scope for its upgradation. The State representative assured that DPR will be shared with MoTA by mid August, 2018 and all RFPs shall be ready by October, 2018. It has already been communicated that foundation stone laying could be scheduled in the middle of September, 2018. The committee further instructed that the concept of installing a life sized statue of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh be ascertained for its structural stability.

3.4 Andhra Pradesh:

The representative of Government of Andhra Pradesh intimated about in principle consent of State Government having been received for the museum-cum-memorial at Lambasingi near Araku and informed about plans to include glimpses from other States too. He also informed about the storyline being complete. He was advised to ensure that RFP for the project is prepared keeping in view the authenticated storyline with related architecture and
leveraging of best available technology. The Director of the State Tribal Welfare Department intimated about the detailed plan likely to be in place in a month followed by the RFP in another month's time. The floating of tender is expected by early October, 2018 as completion of process will take 2 months. The Committee expressed its concern over slow pace of progress and stated that there has to be a greater emphasis on museum completion and it was emphasized that deadlines for completion of all activities are adhered to. The Chairman desired that a review meeting be held with Andhra Pradesh in the 5th September, 2018.

3.5. Madhya Pradesh:

The representative of Government of Madhya Pradesh intimated that the memorial is to come up at Chhindwara and it shall be known as Badal Bhoi museum and it shall showcase 10 major tribal uprisings in the State. The committee advised the State to avoid too much emphasis on tribal art and craft but lay stress on freedom movements led by tribals. It was intimated that the for the 1st phase of works, the tender shall be floated in 10 days while construction of building is expected to be completed in 18 months. The commitment of State Government in terms of resources for the project was stressed upon. Laying of foundation stone on 18th September, 2018 was consented to by the State representative. The Chairman further desired for a review with the State in 5th September, 2018.

3.6. Kerala:

The representative of Kerala submitted that the tribal memorial is to come up at Kozhikode and the State Government has committed its share on 10/07/18. While the building plan is not yet visualized but work is in progress on the content part. Curatorial narratives are being prepared by KIRTADS. It was intimated about enrolling the services of the Centre for Development of Imaging Technology (C-DIT) and Kerala Museum for the technical and architectural aspects of Museum. The RFP and design works will require 3 months and tendering is expected by November, 2018 that the committee felt to be very late. Review of the status is scheduled in 5th September, 2018.

4. The NLC thereafter took up the new proposals of other States for the second phase as below.

4.1. Maharashtra:

The representative of Government of Maharashtra intimated about the proposal to set up the memorial at Gadchiroli in an area of 2 acres. Committee felt the area proposed is too less. A presentation showing details of the project at new site was made. However, the proposal appeared to be incomplete on account of non-fulfilment of criteria for setting up of Tribal freedom fighter Museum. It was therefore advised that the State should come up with a concrete proposal and furnish DPR.

4.2. Telangana:

A detailed presentation was made by the representative of Government of Telangana. The presentation covered details of the project to come up in an area of 1.5 acres at Bapu Ghat in Hyderabad. Considering land scarcity in the city of Hyderabad, it was found acceptable keeping other criteria in view. The memorial is to focus on freedom fighter Sh. Ramji Gond with a separate gallery for another freedom fighter Sh. Komram Bhim. The Chairman felt that the freedom movement incident of mass hanging of several tribal freedom
fighters together on a banyan tree could be the central theme of memorial provided it is projected properly. Committee advised to collect details of all those who were hanged together in the mass hanging. Civil Estimates are ready and the DPRs shall be sent to MoTA. The State Government has reportedly committed Rs 3.00 crore to the project. It was felt that provision of an audio-video hall shall be sufficient in place of Sound & Light show outdoors due to space constraints. The Committee instructed that formal communication of State Government may be made.

4.3. Rajasthnan:

The representative of State acknowledged that their proposal is in nascent stage. DPR is ready and the State government has also committed Rs. 5.00 crore to Art and Culture Department. The location of the proposed museum in Mangarh dham needs to be sorted out in view of sensitivities of neighbouring Gujarat State. The Committee felt that as the Memorial is based on the Bhil community that is spread over in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh too, the concept must be properly thought about.

4.4. Odisha:

A detailed presentation was made by the representative of Government of Odisha on the memorial proposed to come up either in the outskirts of Bhubaneswar or at Puri. The Chairman opined that it is for the State Government to take a call in this matter. The story line and detailed plan of action is reportedly ready with emphasis on ethnicity and display of stamps of tribal freedom fighters too. A documentary film on the State freedom fighters is also ready. The committee desired that the State prepare the DPR besides communicating the formal consent. Review is fixed after a month.

4.5. Mizoram:

The State representative has intimated that the proposed site for the tribal memorial is located close to Aizawl over an extent of 8 acres. The Chairman emphasized that the proposal should be based on established history. An important observation was made regarding the contribution of women tribal freedom fighters and the Committee felt that this aspect needs to be highlighted not just in Mizoram but also in national memorial at Gujarat. MoTA was requested to provide 100% funding support for the project. The Committee expressed willingness to explore such a possibility but desired that the State submit a proposal first.

4.6. Manipur:

A detailed presentation was made by the representative of Government of Manipur on the proposed memorial at Makhel in Senapati district over an extent of 17 acres with an outlay of Rs 18.00 crore. The Committee observed that museum need to focus on the Women freedom fighter character whose contribution is widely recognised cutting across States. The story line and detailed plan of action to be shared by State Government for final decision of NLC. The Committee also advised to explore the possibility of replicating the proposals of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand that have shown good progress.

4.7. Andaman & Nicobar Islands:

The representative of U.T apprised the Committee about the freedom movement of the Andamanese tribe in the Islands to be highlighted in the memorial to come up at Port Blair. The Committee has desired that the storyline of tribals incarcerated in cellular jail requires to
be documented and highlighted. Further, the consent of UT government to the proposal must also be conveyed.

There was no representation from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and West Bengal, hence no discussion could be held on their proposals.

The meeting ended with a vote of Thanks to and from the Chair.
Annexure I

List of Members

1. Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.................In Chair
2. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs
3. Director, National Science Centre
4. Director, Indian Council of Historical Research, Delhi
5. Director, TRI & Media, Ministry of Tribal Affairs
6. Under Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs

List of Participants

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