



Ministry of Tribal Affairs

## National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) celebrates 7th Foundation Day, Strengthening its Commitment to Tribal Education

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The National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) proudly commemorated its 7th Foundation Day celebrating its unwavering dedication to the education and empowerment of tribal students across India. Established in year 2019 under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, NESTS has been instrumental in transforming the educational landscape for tribal communities through the administration of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS).

The event, held at Akashwani Bhavan, was graced by Shri Jual Oram, Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs along with Shri Durgadas Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Shri Antar Singh Arya, Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Schedule Tribes (NCST) and dignitaries from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, educationists, and key stakeholders of EMRS. The celebrations featured inspiring addresses, vibrant cultural performances, and a short film showcasing the remarkable impact of EMRS over the last year in advancing quality education for tribal children.



## Lighting of lamp

**Key Highlights of the Event:**

The momentous occasion address was delivered by Shri Jual Oram, Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs, while the keynote speech was given by Shri Durgadas Uikey, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, reaffirming the government's commitment to strengthening tribal education and outlining the vision for the future, the Chairman, (NCST) highlighted the crucial role of education in driving tribal development, emphasizing how EMRS has been instrumental and crucial to it. Outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements of EMRS students were recognized and celebrated, with twelve students felicitated in the morning session. Further, the staff of NESTS who participated in the Sports meet, received awards in the program. Tribal students from various EMRS institutions captivated the audience with performances showcasing their rich cultural heritage.

A dedicated segment highlighted the achievements of EMRS over the past year, demonstrating its impact on fostering quality education, holistic development, and promising futures for tribal youth across the country.



Shri Jual Oram

Shri Durgadas Uikey

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Ajeet Kumar Srivastava, Commissioner, NESTS stated, “*NESTS has played a pivotal role in ensuring quality education for tribal students. With the expansion of EMRS and new initiatives, we aim to empower the next generation with knowledge and skills for a brighter future.*”



EMRS students & teachers with dignitaries.

### **Transforming Education for Tribal Communities**

NESTS has made significant strides, expanding to 477 functional schools with an enrolment of over 1,38,000 students. Additionally, successful recruitment efforts have resulted in the appointment of a total 9075 teaching and non-teaching staff, further strengthening the educational eco system. NESTS aims to enhance infrastructure, digital learning and skill development programs, ensuring that quality education reaches every tribal student across India.

Various capacity-building programs, including specialized training initiatives, have fortified the foundation of EMRS schools, equipping educators with the necessary tools to foster excellence and shape a promising future for tribal children.

### **About NESTS**

The National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) was established in 2019 under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to provide high-quality education to tribal students through Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS). These schools offer holistic learning, combining academics with sports, arts and life skills, ensuring inclusive and equitable education for tribal communities.

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