

*Report of
The Fifth Conference
For Tribes & Tribal (Scheduled) Areas*

रिपोर्ट

पांचवाँ आदिम जाति कल्याण सम्मेलन, बोर्डी (बम्बई)

Bordi (Dist. Thana) Bombay
12th, 13th & 14th January, 1959

१२, १३ और १४ जनवरी, १९५९

FIFTH TRIBAL WELFARE CONFERENCE, BORDI
(Dist. Thana) BOMBAY
12th, 13th & 14th January 1959

Inauguration by

DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD,
President of India.

Ashirvad by

SHRI GOBIND BALLABH PANT,
Minister of Home Affairs, Government of India.

President of the Conference

SHRI VAIKUNTH LAL MEHTA,
Chairman of Khadi & V.I. Commission, Bombay.

Opening of the Exhibition by

SHRI SRI PRAKASH,
Governor of Bombay.

Chairman of Social Welfare Section

SHRI JUGATRAM DAVE,
Secretary, Swarajya Ashram, Vedchhi.

Chairman of Anthropology Section

DR. B.H. MEHTA,
Head of the Department of Tribal Welfare,
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay.

Chairman of Tribal Representatives Section

SHRI WILLIAMSON SANGMA,
Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shillong (Assam).

Reception Committee

Chairman :

SHRI SHANTILAL SHAH,
Minister for Law and Labour, Bombay.

Secretaries :

SHRI S.R. BHISE
SHRI H.G. PATIL
SHRI D.N. WANDREKAR

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INSPIRATION

प्रेरणा



LATE SHRI THAKKAR BAPA

Founder B.A.J. Sevak Sangh

स्व. पंज्य ठाकर बापा

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Fifth Tribal Welfare Conference was held at Bordi under the auspices of Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, Delhi on the 12th, 13th and 14th January 1959. As usual, the addresses delivered at the Conference, the papers submitted etc. are printed in this volume. The Conference was held in an area where several experiments like Sarvodaya, Ashram Schools, Forest Co-operative Societies, agricultural farms etc. are being successfully tried among the tribals with the help of Bombay Government, by tried and selfless workers. Naturally therefore it has attracted a large number of delegates and social workers from different States of India. Added to it, it was inaugurated by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India and presided over by Shri V.L. Mehta, the pioneer in constructive work at the present day. Shri Gobind Ballabh Pant, Minister of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, in spite of old age and other heavy responsible work attended the Conference and gave his blessings to it. Shri Shantilal Shah, Minister for Law and Labour, Govt. of Bombay was the Chairman of the Reception Committee. Shri Sri Prakash, the Governor of Bombay has kindly inaugurated the Exhibition held in connection with the conference. The Conference was well attended and about 10,000 tribals from the surrounding areas were present.

The Conference was, as usual, divided into three sections, (1) Social Welfare (2) Anthropology and (3) Tribal Representatives, which were presided over by Shri Jugatram Dave of Vedchhi (Surat Distt.) Dr. B.H. Mehta of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay and Shri Williamson Sangma, Minister, Tribal Welfare, Assam, respectively. The Conference may, without any exaggeration, be said to be a thorough success.

The report contains 40 articles contributed by Social Workers, Anthropologists and Government Officers, all experienced in tribal work. They have been classified under the three sections and deal with the subjects covering each of them, as given below :—

(1) SOCIAL WELFARE SECTION.

- (a) *Sarvodaya* :—(1) Scheme of Bombay (2) Scheme of Sarva Seva Sangh
- (b) Development of Scheduled Areas under Special Multi-purpose Tribal Blocks (27 lakhs Scheme for each block for 5 years)
- (c) Intensive Development Scheme (Khadi Commission).

(2) ANTHROPOLOGY SECTION.

- (a) Right approach to the process of assimilation, integration and acculturation of Tribals.

(3) TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES SECTION.

(a) Tribal welfare in general.

The report is divided into six parts. Part 1 contains the addresses of the President of India, the President of the Conference and the Chairmen of the three sections. Parts 2, 3 and 4 contain the articles submitted and classified under the above three sections. Part 5 gives the reports of the three Sections submitted to the open Conference. Part 6 contains three appendices giving the resolutions passed at the Conference, the messages received and the lists of delegates and visitors.

The Conference proceedings were conducted in three separate sections, sitting simultaneously under the chairmanship of the respective chairmen and discussions were held therein separately. On account of the limited time at the disposal of the Conference, only selected papers could be read. We regret that for want of facilities the discussions could not be published verbatim.

We offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri Gobind Ballabh Pant, Shri Sri Prakash, Shri V.L. Mehta, Shri Shantilal Shah and the Chairmen of the three sections, who have been kind enough to accede to the request of Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh and participate in the deliberations of the Conference in different capacities. We take this opportunity of expressing our deepfelt thanks to Shri S. R. Bhise, Secretary of the Reception Committee of the Conference and his band of workers and volunteers who have contributed to its success.

The Bombay State Government have helped us in many ways by giving grant and otherwise and our thanks are due to them also.

We are extremely grateful to the writers of the articles who have by their contributions given material for discussions at the Conference.

Dated : 11th August, 1959.