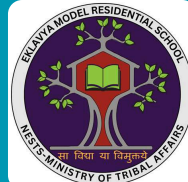




# NATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY FOR TRIBAL STUDENTS (NESTS)



# EKLAVYA

## पत्रिका

**EDITION JAN-MARCH 2026**

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

LEARNING RESOURCES

CURRICULUM UPDATES



TRIBAL

TRANSFORMATION

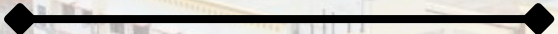
THROUGH

EDUCATION





## From the Desk of the Commissioner



It gives me great pleasure to present the first issue of “**Eklavya Patrika**”, the quarterly newsletter of the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS). The newsletter has been introduced under this new title to reflect the spirit of dedication and pursuit of knowledge symbolized by Eklavya, an enduring inspiration for learners across generations.

EMRSs functioning through NESTS under the aegis of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, continues to expand with the objective of providing quality education and holistic development opportunities to tribal students across the country.

**Eklavya Patrika** aims to serve as a platform to showcase and highlight important achievements in academics, sports, culture, and innovation, while also showcasing inspiring stories emerging from EMRSs nationwide.



सा विद्या या विमुक्तये



# Pariksha Pe Charcha 2026 Activities



Under the nationwide initiative of Pariksha Pe Charcha 2026, EMRSs actively organized a series of engagement and awareness activities to promote stress-free learning, student well-being, and national values among tribal students. During the period between 1st December 2025 to 11th January 2026, large-scale participation was ensured across EMRSs, with approximately 1.23 lakh+ students registering and participating, along with over 5,700+ teachers and more than 2,000 parents of tribal students.

Subsequently, run-up activities were conducted from 12th to 23rd January 2026, which included programmes such as Vande Mataram – The Mantra of Freedom, Indigenous Games Sessions, Meme Creation – Student Voices, Nukkad Natak on Exam & Life Skills, Short Videos & Student Testimonials, Student Anchor–Student Guest Interactive Sessions, Yoga-cum-Meditation Sessions, Poetry and Songs by Students, Poster Making Activities, and the Quiz on Operation Sindoor (Parakram Diwas).

The campaign culminated with the live interaction of students with the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, wherein two EMRS students — Master Susar Hembram (Class X, EMRS Salgadih, Jharkhand) and Master Sreehari V (Class IX, EMRS Karinthalam, Kerala) — had the opportunity to interact directly with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, reflecting the active engagement and national-level representation of tribal students through the EMRS platform.







# USIEF Fulbright Fellowship Programme 2025-26



As part of the fellowship, he participated in the programme in the United States of America from January to March 2026. His achievement reflects the growing academic excellence within the EMRS ecosystem and reinforces NESTS' commitment to empowering educators through international exposure.

The USIEF Fulbright Fellowship Programme is a prestigious international academic exchange initiative that promotes professional development, educational collaboration, and the sharing of innovative teaching practices between India and the United States. The programme is administered by the United States-India Educational Foundation.

It's a moment of great pride for the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) and the entire EMRS fraternity, **Sh. Jai Kumar Sharma**, TGT (Mathematics), EMRS Nandurbar, Maharashtra, has been selected at the national level for the USIEF Fulbright Fellowship 2025-26. Notably, he is the first teacher from the EMRS ecosystem to receive this esteemed fellowship, marking a historic milestone and opening new avenues for global academic exposure within the system.



This accomplishment stands as a testament to the dedication and capability of EMRS educators and is indeed a matter of immense pride for NESTS and the entire EMRS community. The learnings and experiences gained by Sh. Jai Sharma through this programme are expected to significantly enrich pedagogical practices, ultimately benefiting tribal students across EMRSs.



# Capacity Building & Training Initiatives



NESTS continued its commitment to strengthening EMRSs ecosystem through structured capacity building programmes during the first quarter of 2026. A series of training programmes were organized with the objective of enhancing professional competencies of educators, strengthening institutional practices, and improving classroom teaching-learning processes across EMRS institutions



The first batch, focusing on Hostel Warden training, was held from 27–31 January 2026, followed by the second batch for TGT (Art) from 03–07 February 2026. The third batch for Accountants was conducted from 10–14 February, while the fourth batch of Hostel Warden training took place from 17–21 February 2026. The fifth batch for TGT (Art) was organized from 24–28 February 2026. The training series continued in March with the sixth batch for Accountants conducted from 10–14 March 2026, the seventh batch for Hostel Wardens from 17–21 March 2026, and the eighth batch for TGT (Art) from 24–28 March 2026.

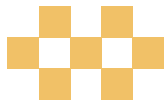


## Semiconductor Training Programme for EMRS Students at IISc Bengaluru

EMRS students participated in a Semiconductor Training Programme at IISc Bengaluru on Nanoscience and Semiconductor Technology to gain exposure to emerging scientific fields. The 4th batch (15–16 January 2026) and 5th batch (12–13 February 2026) together included 40 students from multiple states.



During the two-day hands-on programme, students learned the fundamentals of nanoscience through interactive sessions like “The World of the Very Small,” visited advanced labs to observe semiconductor fabrication processes, and created simple microfabricated patterns. The programme also featured career interaction sessions with experts, introducing students to higher education and career opportunities in science and technology.



## Achievement in JEE-NEET Examination

During the academic year 2024–25, students of EMRSs demonstrated remarkable academic excellence in national-level competitive examinations. A total of 219 EMRS students successfully qualified the JEE Main 2024-25 examination, out of which 34 students further cleared the highly competitive JEE Advanced 2024-25, marking a significant achievement and paving the way for their admission into premier engineering institutions across the country.

In addition, 344 EMRS students qualified the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET 2024-25), reflecting their strong academic preparation and growing representation in the field of medical education. More than 270 EMRS Students scored more than 50 percentile in JEE Mains 2025-26



## EMRS Students visit to Amrit Udyan



An educational exposure visit to Amrit Udyan, located within the premises of Rashtrapati Bhavan, was organized for students of EMRSs during the Winter Annual Edition 2026, which remained open to the public from 03 February to 31 March 2026. As part of this initiative, 330 EMRS students along with 31 escorts from Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Nagaland visited. The programme was conducted between 18 to 30 March 2026 in three batches to ensure smooth coordination and an enriching learning experience.



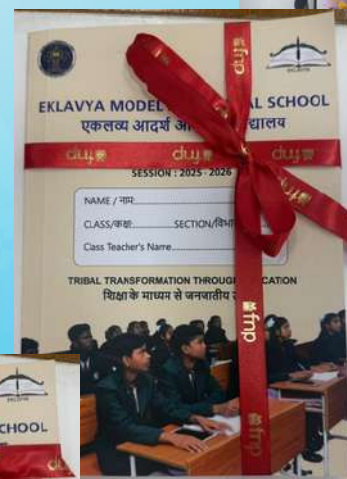




Besides visiting Amrit Udyan, the students were also taken to prominent landmarks in New Delhi, including the Nehru Planetarium, India Gate and National War Memorial, National Science Centre, National Rail Museum, Akshardham and Raj Ghat. The visit provided students with valuable exposure to India's heritage, science, and history, making it a memorable educational experience beyond the classroom.

## A Step Towards Organized and Disciplined Learning in EMRSs

The **Teacher's Diary**, **Monitor's Diary**, and **Student's Diary** have been developed by NESTS to promote effective academic planning, improved classroom management, and enhanced student engagement across EMRSs. These diaries have been circulated in all EMRSs for the new academic session, marking a significant step towards strengthening academic discipline and fostering structured learning practices in schools.



## Learning Gap Assessment

A comprehensive Learning Gap Assessment was conducted among 5,859 students of Grades 6 and 8 across selected EMRSs in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha. The study covered newly enrolled Grade 6 students as well as Grade 8 students with 2–3 years of exposure to the EMRS system, enabling a comparative understanding of learning progression.

The assessment employed both oral and written tools to evaluate competencies in reading and writing (in English and Hindi/Odia), along with arithmetic skills. The findings provided clear and actionable insights into students' learning levels at the point of entry, as well as the impact of sustained engagement within the EMRS ecosystem.



## Academic Guidelines and Policies

- Promotion Rules for Classes VI–XII released, ensuring standardised and transparent academic progression across EMRSs.
- Attendance Norms and Condonation Policy notified, bringing clarity and uniformity in attendance-related decisions.
- Perspective Academic Plan 2026 – “Margdarshika” prepared, providing a structured roadmap for academic planning and implementation.
- Protocols for Prevention and Reduction of Long Absenteeism implemented to improve student retention and attendance.
- Bridge Course Guidelines released to address learning gaps and support foundational strengthening.
- Medical Health Record Certificate introduced across EMRSs, enabling systematic documentation and monitoring of students' health status.





## Progress in Infrastructure

### Construction of EMRSs Achievement during Jan -Mar 2026

EMRS Building Completed 01

Clearance of land and forest issues 04

DPR Approved (Single phase and phase-2) 19

Upgradation proposal approved 01



## Recruitment under ESSE-2025

NESTS notified the EMRS Staff Selection Examination 2025 in September 2025 for filling 7,267 teaching and non-teaching posts across the network of EMRSs.

With the objective of strengthening the quality of teaching and non-teaching staff in EMRSs, a two-tier examination system has been introduced for ESSE-2025. The Tier-I examination was conducted in December 2025, and the results were declared on 31st January 2026. The Tier-II examination was conducted from 22-26 March 2026..



# Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) Initiative in EMRS

The Model Youth Gram Sabha is a national experiential learning initiative conceptualised by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, aimed at fostering democratic values, participatory governance, leadership skills and civic awareness among school students. The programme seeks to familiarise young learners with the functioning of Gram Sabhas and Panchayati Raj Institutions through structured simulations and interactive participation.



Under this initiative, 200 EMRSs across eight States successfully organised Mock Gram Sabha programme within their campuses. During these programme, students assumed roles such as Sarpanch, Ward Members and community stakeholders, and simulated real-life Panchayat proceedings including agenda discussions, deliberations on community issues and drafting of resolutions.

To ensure transparency and maintain uniform standards of implementation, the programme followed a three-tier evaluation mechanism comprising Zonal, State and National level assessments. Participating schools documented their activities through video recordings and reports, which were evaluated in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

The initiative culminated in the National Award Ceremony held on 28 January 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, where the best performing EMRSs were recognised for their exemplary presentation. EMRS Kosambuda (Chhura), Chhattisgarh secured the First Position and was awarded a development grant of ₹1 crore. EMRS Hirli, Odisha received the Second Position along with a grant of ₹75 lakh, while EMRS PTG, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh secured the Third Position with grant of ₹50 lakh. Further, each of the 200 participating EMRSs was provided ₹20,000 as one-time financial assistance for organising the activity.





# Bharat Scouts and Guides Training for EMRS Teachers

NESTS has been recognised as a separate State Association under The Bharat Scouts and Guides, on the lines of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.



As part of this initiative, Basic Unit Leader Training Courses are being organised at the National Training Centre, Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh, to build the capacity of teachers who will serve as Scout Masters and Guide Captains in EMRSs.



The training programme was conducted in five batches each for Scout Masters and Guide Captains, ensuring separate and focused training for both streams. Through these batches, approximately 845 teachers from various States and Union Territories are expected to be trained. A total of 702 numbers of teacher were trained between February and March 2026.



## Space Lab Initiative in EMRSs

NESTS under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, has initiated the establishment of Space Labs in EMRSs to promote interest in space science, astronomy, and STEM education among tribal students.



Under the project coordinated with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 75 EMRSs were identified for the establishment of Space Labs across the country. As part of the first phase of implementation, Space Labs have already been successfully established in 40 EMRSs.

The initiative is being implemented through an agency appointed by NSTFDC, with the objective of strengthening STEM education and promoting interest in space science among EMRS students.



## Students' Home Visit by EMRS Teachers



NESTS issued a circular dated 20.01.2026 directing teachers of EMRSs to undertake at least one home visit of a student per academic year to strengthen school-parent-community engagement.

The initiative aims to promote holistic academic and socio-emotional development of tribal students and reinforce the connection between schools and the communities they serve.



## Safeguarding Adolescent Health and Well-being initiative in EMRSs

NESTS has issued preventive guidelines dated 02.03.2026 for safeguarding the health and well-being of adolescents in EMRSs across the country. As part of this initiative, Staff Nurses in EMRSs have been directed to conduct mandatory monthly health examinations of all girl students residing in hostels.

These examinations will include general physical check-ups, monitoring of menstrual health, screening for any signs of health complications, and providing individual counselling on hygiene and adolescent health.



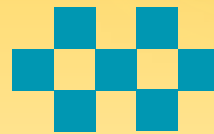


# Eye Check-up Camps in EMRSs



NESTS issued a circular dated 10.02.2026 directing EMRSs to organise Eye Check-up Camps for students to facilitate early identification of vision-related issues.

149 EMRSs have organised eye check-up camps. A total of 37,177 students has been screened during these camps. 3,572 students have been identified with vision-related problems.



Out of them, 3,045 students were advised to wear spectacles. 383 students have been referred to higher medical facilities for further examination and treatment.



## Strengthening Mess Management in EMRSs

NESTS reiterated guidelines dated 29.01.2026 for effective mess management across EMRSs. Being residential schools, EMRSs bear a critical responsibility to provide nutritious, hygienic, and balanced meals to students on a daily basis.



## NESTS - Games and Sports Meet 2026

NESTS organized Sports and Games Meet 2026 on 21st March 2026 for staff of headquarters as the part of its foundation day celebrations. it was a dynamic team-building initiative, fostering team spirit, camaraderie, and a sense of collective achievement across all levels of the organization. With enthusiastic participation from staff members ranging from 20 to 67 years of age, the event brought out the the hidden talents and potential of staff of NESTS Headquarters .



A wide array of activities—including track and field events, cricket matches, badminton games, and other recreational sports—provided opportunities for collaboration, healthy competition, and mutual encouragement. Beyond the games, the meet served as a platform to strengthen interpersonal bonds, boost morale, and reinforce a culture of teamwork within the NESTS community.





# GLIMPSES OF ACTIVITIES





## 8th Foundation Day of NESTS

NESTS will celebrate its 8th Foundation Day on 1st April, highlighting key initiatives and achievements in strengthening tribal education across the country through the network of EMRSs.

The programme will showcase various initiatives and success stories aimed at promoting the holistic development of tribal students by providing quality education, modern infrastructure, and opportunities for academic as well as extracurricular excellence.

A special cultural presentation by students from EMRSs in Manipur will also be featured, showcasing the rich cultural heritage and diversity of tribal communities. The event will reflect the vibrancy of the EMRS ecosystem and its continued efforts towards empowering tribal youth through quality education.

**National Educational Society for Tribal Students**

An Autonomous Organization under  
(Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India)

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