

Revitalizing J&K Sports

The landscape of sports in Jammu & Kashmir is undergoing a visible transformation, yet the journey toward building a robust, inclusive, and competitive sports ecosystem remains long and demanding. Over the last decade, the region has witnessed increasing attention from policymakers, sports bodies, and youth themselves, signaling a powerful shift in aspirations. However, to translate these aspirations into meaningful progress, J&K must pursue a comprehensive and strategic approach that places infrastructure, equity, talent development, and long-term planning at its core.

Sports in J&K is not merely a recreational pursuit—it is a vehicle of empowerment, social cohesion, and psychological resilience, especially for a region that has endured prolonged socio-political challenges. The Union Territory has produced remarkable athletes in disciplines such as skiing, football, cricket, martial arts, and water sports, proving that talent here is abundant. What remains inadequate, however, is the system that should nurture this talent from the grassroots to professional levels. One of the biggest challenges is infrastructure disparity.

While certain pockets—particularly in Jammu and Srinagar—have witnessed significant upgrades, rural and remote areas remain largely underserved. Many schools lack basic playgrounds, let alone specialized training facilities. For genuine progress, sports infrastructure must move beyond urban centers through the creation of zonal training hubs, community stadiums, and school-level sports labs equipped with modern gear. Moreover, maintenance of existing facilities must become a priority; a world-class stadium serves little purpose if it remains inaccessible or poorly managed. Equally critical is the integration of sports into education.

The National Education Policy (NEP 2020) emphasizes sports as a core component of holistic development, yet implementation on ground is inconsistent. Schools and colleges must institutionalize regular sports periods, inter-zonal competitions, and student-athlete support systems. Talent identification should begin early, supported by trained coaches, physical education teachers, and periodic fitness assessments. This approach is vital for recognizing gifted athletes before their potential fades away due to lack of direction.

The region also needs a structured talent development pipeline—from school to district, district to state, and state to national levels. Too often, promising athletes from J&K fade due to discontinuity in training, lack of financial support, or absence of professional exposure. Scholarships, sports hostels, high-performance centers, and transparent selection processes can ensure that every deserving athlete receives the opportunities they merit.

India's Tribal Renaissance: From Neglect to Nation-Building under PM Modi

A decade ago, the word tribal in India often evoked images of deprivation, remote villages without schools, mothers walking miles for water, youth leaving forests in search of opportunity. But under the leadership of PM Modi, this story has changed, from one of survival to one of success.

What was once seen as India's "forgotten frontier" has now become one of its most vibrant engines of growth and pride. For the first time, tribal empowerment is not a slogan but a movement, driven by justice, dignity, and opportunity.

From the Margins to the Mainstream

When PM Modi took office in 2014, tribal development in India operated within a limited framework, a single ministry with a modest budget of Rs 4,498 crore. Over the past decade, this vision has expanded into a nationwide mission. Today, 42 ministries actively contribute to tribal welfare through the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST), marking a fivefold increase in overall tribal-focused spending, from Rs 24,000 crore in 2014 to Rs 1.25 lakh crore in 2024-25.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs' budget alone has tripled to Rs 13,000 crore, reflecting the government's deepened commitment to inclusive growth. DAPST now drives over 200 schemes across education, healthcare, livelihoods, skill development, and sanitation, ensuring that every arm of the government contributes to tribal progress. From 25 lakh Forest Rights Act titles to 1.11 lakh homes for tribal families under PMAY 2.0, this decade under PM Modi has transformed tribal welfare from a marginal agenda into a mainstream national priority.

PM JANMAN and PM JUGA: Taking Development to the Doorstep

PM JanatiyaUnnat Gram Abhiyanmarked a new era in India's tribal development journey. With an outlay of Rs 79,156 crore and the combined effort of 17 ministries, this ambitious program targets 63,843 tribal-majority villages and 112 Aspirational Districts by 2029, bridging long-standing gaps in housing, healthcare, education, and connectivity.

In just a year, the impact is visible across the tribal heartland:

- o Over 4 lakh pucca houses have been completed.
- o Nearly 700 hostels are being built.
- o 70 mobile medical units now reach remote areas.

o Over 26,500 villages have access to piped drinking water; while more than 8,600 households have received electricity connections.

o Around 2,200 villages are now connected through mobile networks, and over 280 Anganwadi centres are nurturing early childhood care and nutrition.

o Simultaneously, the PM JANMAN, focused on uplifting 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) across 19 states and UTs, is ensuring that even the most remote communities are not left behind. With a budget of Rs 24,104 crore, the mission is driving inclusive progress across multiple fronts:

o Over 90,000 pucca homes built and more than 92,000 households electrified.

o Nearly 700 mobile medical units sanctioned to deliver doorstep healthcare.

o Around 6,700 villages connected to piped water and 1,000 Anganwadi centres now functional.

Together, these two flagship missions embody the Modi government's resolve to ensure that no village is too far and no community too small to share in the nation's progress, turning the dream of Viksit Bharat

into a grassroots reality.

SEED Scheme Transforming Lives of DNT Communities

To uplift De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, the Modi government launched the SEED Scheme under the Development and Welfare Board for DNTs in 2019. Since then, over Rs 53 crore has been released, benefiting more than 53,000 people, including 46,000 through livelihood support, 551 through free coaching, and 7,000 with health insurance, marking a historic step toward empowering India's most overlooked communities.

Education: The Bridge to a Brighter Future

In 2013-14, opportunities for tribal children were scarce just 119 Eklavya Model Residential Schools served around 34,000 students, and limited financial aid kept many dreams out of reach. A decade later, the picture is entirely different. By 2025, India has 479 EMRS nurturing 1.38 lakh young minds, many of them first-generation learners from the most remote corners of the country.

Adding to this transformation, the government has provided over Rs 22,000 crore in scholarships over the last 10 years, ensuring that no tribal student is held back for want of resources. Today, nearly 30 lakh tribal students receive scholarship every year, a remarkable rise from 18 lakh in 2013-14, turning aspirations into achievements and education into true empowerment.

Health, Dignity, and Hope

In 2014, access to healthcare in tribal India was limited and uneven, with few health centres, minimal specialist outreach, and negligible disease screening. Under PM Modi, this landscape has been transformed through focused infrastructure expansion and targeted missions. Earlier, one Sub Health Centre served 5,000 people, a PHC 30,000, and a

CHC 1.2 lakh; today, these norms stand relaxed to 3,000, 20,000, and 80,000 in hilly and tribal areas, ensuring accessible care even in remote regions.

o Now, 1,498 Mobile Medical Units, including 694 for PVTGs, deliver doorstep healthcare.

o Under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission, over 6.47 crore health screenings have been conducted across tribal belts.

o The SwasthNariSashaktParivarAbhiyan, focused on rural & tribal women's health, mobilised specialists to remote areas and set world records, with 3.21 crore health registrations in a month, 9.94 lakh breast cancer screenings in a week, and 1.25 lakh vital checks, marking a historic leap from neglect to inclusive, preventive tribal healthcare.

Supporting Tribal Livelihood and Entrepreneurship

Under PM Modi, tribal livelihoods have been transformed too.

o Over 4,550 Van DhanVikasKendras (VDVKs) have been sanctioned, benefiting 12.8 lakh tribal individuals, achieving Rs 129 crore in sales, and training over 37,000 entrepreneurs, of which 85% are women.

o Through TRIFED and NSTFDC, tribal entrepreneurship has gained new strength, with TRIFED marketing over 13,000 tribal products through 117 outlets, and NSTFDC disbursing Rs 16,650 crore in loans between 2020-25 to empower tribal businesses.

o Beyond this, a new wave of tribal startups, supported through the DhartiAabaTribePreneur initiative, is emerging. Backed by a Rs 50 crore innovation fund and mentorship from IITs and IIMs, these startups are redefining tribal enterprise, from eco-tourism in Sikkim to organic wellness brands in Nagaland.

PM Modi's Tribute to India's Tribal Freedom Fighters: From Memory to Legacy

For decades, India's tribal heroes, whose courage shaped the nation's struggle against colonial oppression, remained largely on the margins of history. Under PM Modi, this narrative has been transformed. Through commemorative acts, memorials, publications, symbolic releases, and direct engagement with descendants, the stories of tribal freedom fighters are now celebrated as a cornerstone of India's national heritage.

Honouring History Through National Observances

Recognizing the importance of keeping tribal history alive, the Modi government established 15 November as Janatiya Gaurav Divas, marking the birth anniversary of BhagwanBirsa Munda, India's tribal revolutionary. Over time, this observance has expanded into Janatiya Gaurav Week, celebrated across ministries and states with cultural programs, exhibitions, and educational activities that bring the legacy of tribal heroes to life.

In 2023, the government announced national celebrations of Rani Durgavati's 500th birth centenary, further highlighting the leadership and courage of India's tribal women. PM Modi has consistently linked these commemorations to living sites of resistance:

o On Hui Divas, he honoured the Santhal heroes Sidho-Kanho, Chand-Bhairav, and Phulo-Jhano, keeping their defiance against colonial oppression alive in public memory.

o In Banswara, Rajasthan, he attended the Mangarh Dhamki Gaurav Gatha, commemorating heroes like Govind Guru, Tilka Manjhi, Sidhu-Kanhu, and Budhu Bhagat.

o He also became the first sitting Prime Minister to visit Birsa Munda's birthplace in Ulihatu, Jharkhand, paying floral tributes to the leader of the Ulgulan movement, further embedding tribal heroism into the nation's cultural consciousness.

Engaging Families: Making History Personal

A defining feature of PM Modi's approach has been direct engagement with the descendants of tribal freedom fighters, emphasizing that history is not just about monuments but living families.

o He felicitated families of the Paika Rebellion heroes in Odisha, including Bakshi Jagabandhu, Rindo Majhi, and Laxmi Panda, acknowledging their courage in the 1817 armed uprising.

o PM Modi personally interacted with the descendants of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, inquiring about their well-being

and ensuring their contributions are remembered.

o During Birsa Munda's 150th birth anniversary, PM Modi ensured the descendants of Birsa Munda, SidoMurmu, KanhuMurmu, and other tribal freedom fighters, highlighting the government's commitment to supporting tribal communities nationwide.

By engaging with families, the Prime Minister has created a human connection to history, reinforcing that the sacrifices of tribal leaders continue to shape India's identity.

Memorials and Public Spaces: Embedding Legacy

Under PM Modi's vision, the courage of India's tribal freedom fighters is being preserved and celebrated across the country. Announced in his 2016 Independence Day address, the Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museum plan has approved 11 museums across 10 States, creating spaces that honour their leadership and struggles. So far, three museums have been inaugurated:

o Bhagwan Birsa Munda Memorial Park-cum-Freedom Fighter Museum, Ranchi

o Badal Bhoi State Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum, Chhindwara

o Raja Shankar Shah & Kunwar

Raghunath Shah Freedom Fighter Museum, Jabalpur

o PM Modi also performed bhoomipoojan of the Veerangana Rani Durgavati Smarakaur Udyaan at Jabalpur.

o The Rani Maa Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum is being developed to honour her legacy.

o Taking remembrance further, PM Modi also inaugurated India's first Digital Museum on Tribal Freedom Fighters at Raipur, named after Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, offering interactive stories and artefacts for citizens and students nationwide.

Through these physical and digital memorials, tribal heroism is now woven into India's cultural and civic fabric, inspiring generations to honour and carry forward their legacy of courage.

Public Spaces: Honouring Tribal Heroes

PM Modi has ensured that India's public spaces also reflect the legacy of tribal freedom fighters.

o Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in Bhopal immortalizes the Gond queen.

o Jannayak Tantiya Bhil Station and Tantiya Mama Bhil University commemorate Bhil warriors who resisted British rule.

o In Andhra Pradesh, a 30-foot bronze

statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju in Bhimavaram celebrates his leadership during the Rampa Rebellion.

o Similarly, in Jharkhand, PM Modi unveiled a statue of Birsa Munda in Ranchi, honouring the tribal icon and his pivotal role in the Ulgulan movement.

o The Birsa Munda Janatiya Gaurav Urvans are being established across tribal regions, transforming tributes into living heritage spaces for communities and visitors alike.

Through these initiatives, monuments, stations, universities, and museums together create a living landscape of remembrance.

Bringing Tribal History to Life: Books, Comics, and Digital Stories

PM Modi has transformed the way India remembers its tribal freedom fighters, ensuring their stories reach every generation. Through the AadiShaurya e-book, he digitally chronicles over 150 years of tribal resistance, while the Inspiring Tribal Heritage of India coffee-table book celebrates tribal art, culture, and contributions to the freedom struggle.

Adding a creative touch, the comic anthology "Tribal Leaders of the Freedom Struggle", developed with Amar Chitra Katha, narrates the lives of 20 tribal

heroes in an engaging way.

Symbolic Tributes: Coins, Stamps, and Urvans

o PM Modi released commemorative coins and stamps marking the Paika Rebellion.

o He also launched a coin on the 150th birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, cementing his legacy in the national memory.

o Additionally, he launched a coin celebrating Rani Gaidinliu, the Naga freedom fighter who led armed resistance against colonial rule.

Conclusion: From Margins to the Heart of History

Under PM Modi, tribal freedom fighters are no longer footnotes, they are central figures in India's national narrative.

The legacy of Birsa Munda, Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, Govind Guru, Sidhu-Kanhu, Rani Gaidinliu, Alluri Sitarama Raju, and countless other tribal heroes is now preserved, celebrated, and made accessible for generations to come, ensuring that India remembers not only the leaders but the people behind the struggle, the families, the communities, and the spirit of resistance that shaped the country's freedom.

Adult married children not entitled to live in parents' home against their consent

ADVOCATE A. K. SAWHNEY

The landscape of family law in India continues to evolve, and one of the most striking developments in recent years concerns the rights of adult married children to reside in the home of their parents. Courts across the country have gradually shifted their approach, recognising the autonomy of parents over their self-acquired property and reinforcing that adult sons, daughters, and their spouses cannot insist on residence in the parental home as a matter of right. This development is especially significant in cases emerging under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, a legislation that had long been interpreted in a manner that tilted the balance of residence rights in favour of the daughter in law. The new direction recognises the dignity, peace of mind, and property rights of elderly parents as equally important.

In earlier years, the general understanding was that a daughter in law who alleged domestic violence could claim the right to reside in the matrimonial home, even when such home was owned by the parents in law. Courts frequently held that such residence amounted to shared household under the Act. However, after years of litigation and misuse of this provision in some cases, courts have begun to clarify and, where necessary, correct the legal position. The shift does not dilute the protection available to women facing actual violence. Rather, it prevents unnecessary hardship to parents in law who may find themselves dragged into disputes between husband and wife and subjected to prolonged harassment. The most recent judgments from various High Courts and the Supreme Court mark a significant change. Courts now hold that a daughter in law has no inherent right to live in the self-acquired property of her in laws. The right to reside in a shared household does not extend to property that is exclusively owned by the parents of the husband, unless such parents expressly permit the couple to live there. Consequently, several courts have begun issu-

ing clear injunctions restraining daughters in law and even sons from occupying such premises without the consent of the real owners.

A notable example comes from the High Court of Rajasthan, which dealt firmly with a case where a son had initiated litigation against his own father. The court observed that the son had filed the case purely to harass his father and create pressure regarding the father's self-acquired property. Since the property belonged exclusively to the father, the son had no legal right to remain there or claim any share during the father's lifetime. In a strong message against frivolous litigation, the court imposed a cost of one lakh rupees on the son for filing a baseless case and attempting to misuse the judicial process. The court also passed an injunction directing the eviction of the son and restraining him from asserting any right over the property.

The Supreme Court has also weighed in on this issue, clarifying that while parents may, out of goodwill, allow their son and daughter in law to reside with them, such permission does not create an enforceable legal right. If the daughter in law creates nuisance, disturbs the peace of the household, or misuses the residence provision of the Domestic Violence Act, the parents in law can seek legal remedies. Courts have the power to evict her through appropriate injunctions. In some cases even parents of the daughter in law have been restrained where they have interfered or contributed to the disturbance.

These judgments collectively reaffirm a basic principle. The right to property includes the right to peaceful possession and the right to decide who may or may not reside within it. Adult married children, despite cultural expectations, cannot force themselves upon their parents. As society changes and joint families become less common, the law is aligning itself with the realities of modern living. The courts have made it clear that respect, not coercion, must form the foundation of family relationships.

The Value of Child Care

DR BANARSI LAL

Every year 14th November is celebrated as the children day (Bal Divas) in India to honour the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. The theme of this year Children Day is 'For Every Child, Every Right'. The theme for 2025 will continue the focus on the child-centred policies and actions across the nation. On this day child rights, education and welfare are highlighted. This day reminds the society for its responsibility towards ensuring the rights, safety and education of every child. Pandit Nehru was very affectionate towards the children and became famous as Chacha Nehru among them. He believed that the future of a nation lies in the children education and their proper upbringing. He worked immensely for the well-being of the children and the youngsters after independence of India. The day is celebrated to create awareness among the people about the rights, care and education of children. Various types of competitions on essay writing, debates, quiz etc. are organized by various institutions. The day is celebrated by the various Government, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), students and teachers in the schools and colleges with great passion and enthusiasm. Print and electronic media also highlight this day through articles and programmes. School and college buildings are decorated with multicolour paints, colourful balloons and decorative materials.

Quality child care plays an important role in children's development and provides a valuable support to working families. We celebrate the Children Day on November 14 (Jawahar Lal Nehru Birthday) and we participate in some special programmes especially for children. Now the question arises— are we caring for children who become the responsible citizens of future? Still we observe the crime against the children. Still the people prefer the male child. The child sex ratio is at declining rate in India. It has been observed that the rate of infant mortality, child morbidity and child mortality are higher in rural areas as compared to the urban areas. Children are the key of success and development of any country. They are innocent, admirable, pure and loved by everyone. Children are the future of any nation and they need the special care, affection and protection from their parents, teachers and other. It has been observed that the many of poor families send their children for work. Child labour is the great evil which has been created by the parents of poor children due to poverty and lack of awareness of education. India is having the large child labour. Our efforts to eradicate this evil have come to naught. There is need to eradicate the child labour. According to experts, access to primary education could alleviate the problem to a great extent. In India, elementary education has been made as a fundamental right. There is a need to make a beginning in this direction. It depends on us as how we can make this Fundamental Right a reality. Tamil Nadu introduced the midday meal scheme as a technique to increase the enrolment of children in the schools. Presently the midday meal scheme has been implemented in all over the country but we are still far away from our desired targets in regard to enrolment. We need to provide minimum safe infrastructure and teachers to our school children. We are proud of our high-class buildings, five star hotels and other showpieces but we need to provide facilities for our children.

We come across child beggars and we can't make out which one is genuine and

which one is spurious. There are plenty of laws for the beggars but they are rarely implemented. There are inter-state rackets that maim or blind children, making them objects of pity in order to get their due from people who sympathise with such people. We observe the street children everywhere, in bazaars, railway stations and in cities. They struggle during day and night for their living. Some work as rag-pickers and some are shoeshine boys. Some NGOs should be appreciated who work for them. Many children are sexually abused. The offenders are known to them but even then there is no one with them for their safety. They are traumatised. We often read such types of instances in different daily publications. In many places we often read about the rackets trading of children. These types of rackets promote the child prostitution. What type of future can be expected of such children whose life suddenly halts before they begin it? Some of NGOs set homes for these disadvantaged children. In Kamatipura (Mumbai) night care centres are provided to the small children of commercial sex workers. There the children are taken care from 5.30 pm to 10 am. It has been observed that some children still hang out at red light area. It is not easy to change the attitude of a person even with a strict law. The evils like corruption, dowry, child marriage, rape, prostitution etc. Still exists in India despite law. Reforms must come from within and not from without. While child marriage is conducted in a clandestine manner in Karnataka in the guise of mass marriage, it is a hardy annual in states like Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. In May 2003, the Supreme Court of India issued notices to many states to prevent the child marriages. The petitioners pointed out that though poverty and illiteracy contributed to child marriages, the evil spawned far reaching consequences. A young girl is not properly physically and mentally developed due to child marriage and her joy of childhood and personality development is deprived. Many children are thrown away after birth when they are born out of wedlock.

Many children are left in the cradles of fondling homes or child care centres of the State Councils of Child Welfare functioning under the Indian Council of Child Welfare. Many children are given to adoptive parents. It is not that the poor children are under stress but also the children belonging to middle and upper class also undergo formidable emotional strains in families where parents are working. Many children from the middle and upper sections of the society when return to homes there is no one to receive them. They wait till late evening when weary parents return home. We often read in daily newspapers that many children suicide due to examination stress. Many young boys and girls think that failure in the examination is the end of world and a few, desperate enough to withstand the trauma of failure, take out their lives. To whom we should blame for this state of affairs? Parents, our education system, the society or our value system? Many children whether they are rich or poor have lost the power to smile or afraid to smile. If we teach our children that if one option is closed for them, there are various other options open for them, then they would not take the extreme steps. The Indian government has implemented several schemes to ensure the welfare and development of children. There is need to ensure children's welfare. To address these challenges, a multi-dimensional approach is needed.

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