

Report

On

**Street Skit on Freedom Fighters and Contemporary Social
issues in Arunachal Pradesh**

In celebration of

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

Commemorating

146th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

15th-22nd November, 2021



Submitted by

Department of Social Work

Rajiv Gandhi (Central) University

Rono Hills, Doimukh - 791112

Arunachal Pradesh

November- 2021



Rajiv Gandhi University
Rono Hills, Arunachal Pradesh

Department of Social Work and Department of Fine Arts & Music
In Collaboration with **Institute of Distance Education**

Rajiv Gandhi University

to Organize

Street Skit on Freedom Fighters and Contemporary Social Issues

in Arunachal Pradesh

In celebration of

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

146th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda
15th To 22nd November, 2021

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

22nd November 2021

Time	Venue
11.30 AM	Cafeteria
12.30 PM	IDE Tri-Junction
04.00 PM	Administrative Block (Valedictory Function)

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[Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar]

Assistant Professor and Head i/c
Department of Social Work
Member, Organising Committee, Janajatiya Gaurav Divas, RGU

Executive Summary

The Union Cabinet has approved 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to commemorate the brave tribal freedom fighters as part of the year-long celebrations of 75 years of India's Independence. The nationwide celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas were led by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at national level and were marked by a large number of important programmes, colourful cultural events, social activities as well as programmes at the birth place of Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Ulihatu in Khunti, Jharkhand. The Government has declared 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas dedicated to the memory of brave tribal freedom fighters so that coming generations can know about their sacrifices for the country. The date is the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda who is revered as Bhagwan by tribal communities across the country.

Rajiv Gandhi University too have joined hands with other important institutions and weeklong celebrations of the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas at RGU have witnessed number of events highlighting the pride of tribal culture in the state of Arunachal Pradesh and other parts of the country. During this series, Department of Social Work in collaboration with department of fine arts and Music was entrusted with the responsibility of performing street skit of tribal freedom fighters from the state of Arunachal Pradesh and also awareness building on contemporary social issues like domestic violence, alcoholism etc. which were taken up by the MASW 1st and 3rd semester students residing in and around Itanagar. After a rigorous rehearsal the skit plays were performed successfully at three different locations across campus on 22nd November, 2021. This report provides a glimpse of the same.

[Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar]

Assistant Professor and Head i/c

Department of Social Work

Member, Organising Committee, Janajatiya Gaurav Divas, RGU

Part 1: Preface

1.1. About the Host Institution

The University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University) is the premier institution for higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh located at the picturesque tabloid of Rono Hills approximately 25 km away from the state capital Itanagar. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4th February 1984 at Rono Hills. Ever since its inception, the University has been trying to achieve excellence and fulfill the objectives as envisaged in the University Act. The University was recognized as a Central University in the year 2007 established under the Act of Parliament. Being the only Central University of the State at present there are Thirty-Six (36) Departments and Two (02) Institutes functioning under Nine (09) Academic Faculties. The Faculty members have been actively engaged in research activities. The University has been maintaining its academic excellence. The students from the University are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services, but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations.

About the Department of Social Work

The Department of Social Work (DSW) at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) was established in 2015 with the vision of providing quality Social Work Education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. DSW at RGU is the first full-fledged Department of Social Work offering face-to-face Master of Arts in Social Work (MASW) Program in the state with a total of four regular faculty members and sixteen students in the first batch. Department offers a Certificate Programme in Environmental Sanitation. The Doctoral Program in Social Work (PhDSW) was introduced with July 2018 to focus on strengthening the research component in the region with an emphasis on 'evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence'.

Class room lectures and social work practicum form the main crux of the Program. The students/trainees are also exposed to carefully crafted skill building and personality development programs and are provided with opportunities to participate in workshops, seminars and lectures from external experts on regular basis. The department with a commitment towards 'evidence based practice and practice based evidence' is dedicated in grooming and equipping students to reach their full potential and acquire the knowledge, skills, values and techniques essential to become professional social workers who not only acquire personal and professional competency and growth, but also contribute to the betterment of the society and country at large.

1.2. About the Sponsoring Agency

There was no external funding for the programme. The programme was sponsored by the host institute i.e. Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh.

1.3. Background

Government of India has declared 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to commemorate the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. A weeklong celebration from 15th to 22nd November, 2021 was being organised to show case the glorious history of Tribal people, culture and achievement.

Rajiv Gandhi University also joined the nation in celebrating this weeklong Janajatiya Divas. Various departments jointly conducted the programme successfully. To mark the occasion with great enthusiasm the Department of Social Work in active collaboration with the department of Fine Arts and Music, had come up with activities with the motive to enlighten the people about the unsung heroes contribution and achievement in the Indian National Movement for freedom and also to portray the various contemporary problems and issues of the tribal society with reference to the tribes of Arunachal Pradesh.

1.4. Objectives

The specific objective of the Street Skit commemorating Janajatiya Gaurav Divas (Pride of Tribal Culture Day) include:

- To enlighten the common mass about the contribution of tribal society in national freedom struggle against colonial rulers
- To highlight the contribution and achievement of unsung tribal heroes in their struggle for freedom movement
- To generate awareness on the various contemporary problems and issues present in the tribal society
- To portray the difficulties and issues faced by the tribals

Part 2: Street Skit

2.1. Street Skit: Themes

Street Skits were performed by the students from Department of Social Work, RGU with two different themes at different venues viz. Cafeteria, IDE Tri-Junction and Administrative block on 22 November 2021.



Image 1: MASW students Performing Street Skit near Cafeteria RGU Campus, Rono Hills, 22.11.2021

2.1. Street Skit: Theme one- The Story of Moje Riba, The First Freedom Fighter of Arunachal Pradesh who hoisted Tri-Colour

The 1st theme of skit play was focused on the story of a tribal hero 'Moje Riba' born in Daring in 1911, who was a prominent martyr of the freedom movement. The skit presents the story of late Moje Riba and portrays the image of how bravely the tribal society helped in the freedom struggle. He was arrested by Britishers in 1947 for campaigning and distributing Congress pamphlets. He was also the first person from Arunachal Pradesh to hoist the "Tiranga", national flag at Dipa village of Arunachal Pradesh on 15th August 1947.



Image 2: Skit play across RGU campus depicting the story of late 'Moje Riba' an unsung tribal hero, RGU Campus, Rono Hills, 22.11.2021

2.1. Street Skit: Theme Two- Contemporary Social Issues in Arunachal Pradesh

The second Phase of the skit tried to portray the various contemporary problems and issues of the tribal society with reference to the tribe's of Arunachal Pradesh.

The skit symbolized and discouraged the social evils like forced marriage, child marriage, polygamy, domestic violence and alcoholism, which are among the main problems of the tribal society. The skit was aimed to create awareness and to make the people understand the morals and empathies with the victims of such practices.

It was encouraging to see good number of school students and young kids engrossingly watching and appreciating the issues being highlighted by MASW trainees.



Image 3: Skit Skit across RGU campus portraying the various problems and issues of Tribal Society

Part 3: Street Skit-Take Aways

3.1. Street Skit: Take Aways

The major outcome(s) from the activities undertaken by the Department of Social Work, RGU under Janjatiya Gaurav Divas commemorating the weeklong celebrations of 146th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, are as follows;

- Awareness among younger generations, masses and even among university fraternity about unsung tribal heroes
- Awareness on the contribution of tribal society in freedom movement and nation building
- Acknowledging the prevailing social evils present in the tribal society
- Understanding and empathizing the difficulties and issues faced by the tribals

It was morale boosting and equally heartening for MASW trainees who got a rare opportunity to show case their potential amid COVID marred environments of teaching-learning.

Also, with the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and other high offices of the university acknowledging their contributions during valedictory function, it was put on record that students from other department too must take up such activities on regular basis for it helps in ensuring their active teaching - learning process and also facilitates personal and professional development of learners.

Part 4: Street Skit-Team



Image 4: Street Skit team members including MASW students and Faculty members from the Departments of Social Work and Fine Arts & Music, Rajiv Gandhi University

List of students who participated in the street skit

MASW 1st Semester (Batch 2021-23)

1. Memak Sangyu
2. Mene Bagang
3. Nabam Yate
4. Mallika Das
5. Labhita Devi
6. Tago Tadang
7. Tajar Taba
8. Tara Dakpe
9. Tolo Tayeng
10. Roshni Rai
11. Gamrik Ete
12. Joram Neniya
13. Puja Biswakarma
14. Sorang Taring

MASW 3rd Semester (Batch 2020-22)

1. Bamang Yakum
2. Tarh Yaba
3. Tana Muj Tara
4. Sanny Miwu