

BHAGWAN BIRSA MUNDA JAYANTI CELEBRATED

Panaji: November 16,2019

The Goa Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (GCSCST) in association with Kalyan Ashram, Goa celebrated the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jayanti as Jan Jati Gaurav Divas at programme organised at Rajiv Gandhi Kala Mandir, Ponda yesterday.

The programme was organised for the first time by Government at State Level.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Tribal Welfare Shri Govind Gaude said, Birsa Munda was the young revolutionary, belonging to the forest of Chota Nagpur Plateau (today's Jharkhand region). He was a freedom fighter who mobilised the tribals against the British and forced them to enact a law on protecting the land rights of the tribals. Further speaking, Shri Gaude said when the British started devastating the lives of the tribes by introducing rent and tax for the land, Birsa Munda began his full-time agitation against them. The young revolutionist is still celebrated through literature, mass media for his remarkable and brave movement against the British to ensure the land rights of tribals, Shri Gaude remarked.

He said that in a short span of life of 24 years Birsa Munda worked tirelessly for the betterment of his society. He was the first freedom fighter who gave his life for the country against the British rule. Today's youth should know about such great visionary leaders like Birsa Munda and should walk on the path shown by them Shri Gaude added.

Commissioner, GCSCST, Shri Prakash Velip said though it is for the first time that Birsa Munda Jayanti is organised at State level by Government, it will be celebrated on a large scale, in the coming years he added. Even if Birsa Munda's name is not much popular in Goa he is famous at the National level for his courageous attitude against British rule.

Chairman, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Corporation, Shri Durgadas Gaude; Director, Directorate of Tribal Welfare, Smt Sandhya Kamat; Secretary, Akhil Bhartiya Kalyan Ashram, Shri Sharad Shelke; President, Kalyan Ashram, Goa, Shri Dr Dilip Kerkar; Working President, UTTA, Shri Namdev Fatarpekar;

President, Gomantak Gaud Maratha Samaj, Shri Vishwas Gaude were among those prominent persons present on the occasion.

Resource person, Shri Sharad Shelke spoke on the life of Birsa Munda and his contribution for the Nation.

Dr Dilip Kerkar in his introductory speech briefed on the importance of organising Birsa Munda Jayanti in the State. Director, Dte. Of Tribal Welfare, Smt Sandhya Kamat welcomed the gathering.

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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.
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