

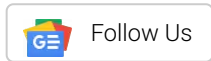
# IIM Ranchi to conduct research on tribal entrepreneurship in Jharkhand

In a conversation with *The Indian Express*, IIM Ranchi Director Deepak Kumar Srivastava said that the research will be conducted by the Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs.

Written by [Abhishek Angad](#)


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Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi (File Photo)

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In a bid to work on its ‘local responsibility’, the Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi in Jharkhand will be conducting research on tribal entrepreneurship in the state. In a conversation with *The Indian Express*, IIM Ranchi Director Deepak Kumar Srivastava said that the research will be conducted by the Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs, and the focus will be to create a ‘real world impact’ on the domain of tribal enterprises in Jharkhand. The Centre was started in the year 2020.

Srivastava said: “After the research is done, we will release it in the form of a book. With a focus on local responsibility, Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs, IIM Ranchi aims to conduct research on tribal entrepreneurship, intends to create a real-world impact on the domain of tribal enterprises

in India, and brings the scope of the tribal economy to the fore of academic and policy discussions.”

He added that the research on tribal entrepreneurship will represent a comprehensive picture of the enterprises owned by the tribes in tribal areas, which include both social and profit making enterprises. “The research will focus on the evolution of enterprises, success stories of community-based enterprises, exploring the key of success and replication, optimisation of minor forest products for creating new enterprises, tribal skill development, issues and opportunities in the tribal areas, and socio-economic development of tribes in India,” Srivastava said.

The Centre is chaired by Renjith R who belongs from a tribal community in Kerala. He said that amidst several problems that afflict the tribal community of Jharkhand, he thought of empowering the community which will have a lasting impact. Further, Renjith R said that the Centre has also worked with the domain of tribal entrepreneurship.

He told *The Indian Express*: “We are located amidst the tribal populace, and the idea is that as a business school what can we do the best about tribal entrepreneurship. We started off by being a part of Cente’s Van Dhan Vikas Yojna and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. We have given training to Didis associated with the Self Help Groups. This will help them create some sort of income generation and knowing that it is the intermediaries who are getting most of the benefits of the produce they make from around 29 percent forest cover of Jharkhand, we are empowering them. The research aims to get some sense of the entrepreneurship all over India which we will replicate in Jharkhand.”

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IIM Ranchi has also aimed to start compulsory electives such as courses on ‘Tribes in India’, where the students will also learn a ‘ local tribal language’.