

# CALL FOR PAPER

# ADIVASI

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**Journal of  
Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes  
Research & Training Institute (SCSTRTI)  
Peer Reviewed Journal**

**Theme : “Tribal Health : Status, Traditional Systems, and Integrative Approaches”**

Published biannually since 1955, *Adivasi* is one of India's oldest and premier tribal research journals, providing a scholarly platform for multidisciplinary research and evidence-based discourse on tribal communities in India. The 65th volume seeks to explore, document, and analyse the status of tribal health, traditional healthcare systems, and possibilities of integration with the modern healthcare framework. Contributions are invited from researchers, public health professionals, academicians, anthropologists, medical practitioners, and experts with empirical work or critical analyses on tribal health policies, practices and strategies.

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI), Government of Odisha, is pleased to announce a Call for Articles for the upcoming Special Combined Volume of its peer-reviewed research journal, *Adivasi*, Volume 65, dedicated to the theme : **“Tribal Health : Status, Traditional Systems, and Integrative Approaches”**

## Background and Rationale

India is home to over 700 Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities, comprising 8.6% of the national population (Census 2011). Despite various policy measures, tribal communities continue to experience high levels of morbidity, mortality, malnutrition, and limited access to quality healthcare. As one of the most disadvantaged and marginalised groups, their health outcomes consistently lag behind national averages, with women and children being most affected.

Tribal populations face a complex web of challenges—geographic isolation, socio-economic exclusion, and systemic gaps in healthcare delivery. These are further compounded by poor sanitation, inadequate nutrition, and lack of preventive services. Despite this, tribal societies maintain rich traditional health knowledge systems, rooted in ethnomedicine, plant-based remedies, spiritual practices, and holistic approaches to wellbeing. These systems remain vital in many remote areas where formal healthcare is limited.

Recognising this dual context of vulnerability and resilience, the government has introduced programmes such as PM-JAY and other initiatives under the Ministries of Tribal Affairs and Health & Family Welfare, emphasising Universal Health Coverage and community-based care. These developments offer a crucial opportunity for research and policy innovation.

Addressing tribal health effectively demands an interdisciplinary approach, combining insights from public health, anthropology, ethnobotany, medical sciences, and indigenous knowledge systems. This volume of *Adivasi* seeks to provide an evidence-based platform for examining current health challenges and traditional practices, while exploring ways to preserve, validate, and potentially integrate indigenous systems into mainstream healthcare in culturally sensitive and scientifically robust ways.





## Scope and Indicative Thematic Areas

Research-based and evidence-supported original articles, case studies, reviews, and policy analyses are invited under the following broad thematic areas:

1. Tribal Health Status and Determinants
2. Traditional Health Knowledge Systems
3. Health-Seeking Behavior and Cultural Perceptions
4. Integration of Traditional and Modern Healthcare Systems
5. Health Policy, Programmes, and Innovations
6. Emerging Issues in Tribal Health

## Guidelines for Submission

- *Types of Submissions:* Original research articles, review papers, field reports, policy analysis, and case studies.
- *Length:* Articles should be between 3,000 to 6,000 words including references.
- *Language:* English (preferably in academic and scientific style).
- *Formatting:* Manuscripts must follow standard academic formatting with:
  - Title
  - Abstract (200–250 words)
  - Keywords (5–7)
  - Main body with clearly defined sections (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion)
  - References in APA style (7th Edition).
- *Plagiarism:* Submissions must be original and will be checked for plagiarism. Articles with more than 10% similarity will be rejected.
- *Illustrations & Data:* Tables, graphs, and images must be of high resolution and properly captioned.
- *Citations:* Authors must ensure all data and quotations are properly cited and referenced.

## Important Dates

- Full Article Submission Deadline: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- Peer Review and Revisions: December 15<sup>th</sup> 2025
- Publication Date: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Review Process

All submitted articles will undergo a double-blind peer review process conducted by a panel of subject matter experts. Authors may be required to revise their articles based on reviewer feedback. Accepted articles will be published in the print and digital versions of *Adivasi*.







## Submission Procedure

Please send your abstracts and full-length articles to:

Email : [adivasi.scstrti@gmail.com](mailto:adivasi.scstrti@gmail.com)

### Address:

**Managing Editor and Director, SCSTRTI**

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- Prof. Arup Ratan Bhattacharjee, Kolkata University.
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## Note to Contributors

Authors are encouraged to focus on specific tribal communities or regions, and contributions with a comparative or interdisciplinary approach are highly welcomed. Articles based on fieldwork, ethnographic insight, and data-driven analysis will be given priority.

Further, Research-based and evidence-supported original articles, case studies, reviews, and policy analyses are invited under the following broad thematic areas:

This volume seeks to create a landmark scholarly resource on tribal health in India and contribute meaningfully to shaping culturally informed and community-sensitive health policies. The articles can also be contributed which will have time series data giving changing health status of tribal population in a region, state or Country.

We look forward to your valuable contributions.





## List of Indicative Thematic Areas

Research-based and evidence-supported original articles, case studies, reviews, and policy analyses are invited under the following broad thematic areas:

### 1. Tribal Health Status and Determinants

- Epidemiological patterns of diseases among ST communities.
- Maternal and child health among tribal populations.
- Nutrition, food security, and malnutrition in tribal areas.
- Mental health and psychosocial issues in tribal societies.
- Access to healthcare services: barriers and enablers.
- Impact of poverty, displacement, climate change, and migration on tribal health.
- Tribal health indicators: regional and inter-community disparities.

### 2. Traditional Health Knowledge Systems

- Documentation and analysis of indigenous medical practices.
- Ethnomedicine and ethnobotany among specific tribal groups.
- Role of traditional healers (Vaids, Shamans, Gunias, etc.) in tribal healthcare.
- Ritualistic and spiritual healing practices.
- Oral traditions and community transmission of health knowledge.
- Case studies of effective indigenous practices in disease prevention and cure.

### 3. Health-Seeking Behavior and Cultural Perceptions

- Tribal beliefs, taboos, and customs relating to health and illness.
- Gender dimensions in health-seeking behavior among tribal groups.
- Trust, preference, and perceived efficacy of traditional vs. modern medicine.
- Indigenous health epistemologies and worldview.

### 4. Integration of Traditional and Modern Healthcare Systems

- Models and case studies of integrative healthcare initiatives.
- WHO and national frameworks for traditional knowledge integration.
- Challenges in validating traditional knowledge through biomedical standards.
- Legal and ethical aspects of traditional medicine integration.
- Role of AYUSH in tribal health systems.
- Capacity-building of traditional healers and community health workers.

### 5. Health Policy, Programmes, and Innovations

- Evaluation of government health programmes targeting ST populations (e.g., PVTGs).
- Innovations in tribal healthcare delivery (telemedicine, mobile clinics, digital health).
- Role of Tribal Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs) under Ayushman Bharat.
- Implementation of the National Tribal Health Action Plan (NTHAP).
- Community participation in health governance and planning.

### 6. Emerging Issues in Tribal Health

- Post-pandemic (COVID-19) impacts on tribal health and healthcare systems.
- Non-communicable diseases among tribal populations.
- Substance abuse, addiction, and rehabilitation approaches.
- Environmental degradation, mining, and health consequences for tribal communities.