ADI DRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

ADVERTISEMENT

The Directorate of Tribal Welfare invites proposals from qualified individuals, institutions and organization to undertake comprehensive documentation of cultural heritage of Tribal communities in Tamil Nadu.

Research Area

- Recognizing the importance of documenting tribal cultural traditions and varied heritage, the Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to call for proposals focused on documentation of Tribal culture.

- The proposal for documenting tribal languages in Tamil Nadu is a significant effort aimed at preserving and promoting the indigenous languages spoken by tribal communities in the region. Tamil Nadu is home to several tribal groups, each with its own distinct language, culture, and traditions. However, many of these languages are at risk of becoming extinct as younger generations increasingly adopt mainstream languages like Tamil and English.

- In the first phase, the tribal dialects of Tribe Communities of Kani, Irular, Toda and Narikuravar will be taken up.

Key Points of the Proposal:

1. **Language Documentation**: The primary goal of the proposal is to create detailed documentation of tribal languages spoken by the various indigenous communities in Tamil Nadu. This documentation would include:
   - **Grammar and Phonetics**: Detailed linguistic descriptions of the grammar, sentence structure, and pronunciation of the language.
   - **Vocabulary**: A comprehensive compilation of words, phrases, and expressions, including any unique words used in specific contexts (e.g., spiritual, ecological or social).

- o **Oral Traditions**: Many tribal languages are largely oral, with rich oral literature, including stories, songs, and traditional knowledge. These would be transcribed and preserved.

2. **Ethnographic Studies**: In addition to linguistic documentation, ethnographic studies would be conducted to understand the cultural and social contexts in which these languages are spoken. This includes:
   - o Studying the role of language in daily life, rituals, and community activities.
   - o Identifying any language shifts or loss occurring within these communities.
   - o Documenting the relationship between language and indigenous knowledge systems, including ecological knowledge, herbal medicine, and local histories.

3. **Tribal Language Preservation**: The proposal aims to not only document the languages but also to ensure their preservation. This might involve:
   - o Developing educational materials in tribal languages.
   - o Training younger generations within the communities to speak and use their native languages.
   - o Creating language revitalization programs, possibly through collaboration with schools and universities.

4. **Collaboration with Tribal Communities**: Successful documentation requires the active participation of tribal communities themselves. The proposal would emphasize:
   - o Collaborative research with tribal elders, storytellers, and linguists.
   - o Respecting tribal customs and traditions in the documentation process.
   - o Ensuring that tribal communities retain ownership of their linguistic and cultural heritage.

5. **Technological Integration**: The use of technology can play a vital role in the documentation process:
    - o Digital Archives: Creating online databases and archives for easy access to recorded languages, videos, and transcriptions.
    - o Mobile Apps and Software: Developing tools to help teach and revitalize tribal languages, making them more accessible to both local and global audiences.

Importance of the Proposal:

1. **Cultural Preservation**: Tribal languages are an integral part of the cultural identity of indigenous communities. Documenting these languages ensures the preservation of not only the languages but also the customs, traditions, and world views associated with them.
2. **Preventing Extinction**: Many tribal languages are under threat of extinction due to globalization and language shift. By documenting and revitalizing these languages, the proposal aims to prevent further loss of linguistic diversity.
3. **Empowerment of Tribal Communities**: Language is a key element in community empowerment. By documenting their languages and making them a source of pride, tribal communities can strengthen their social fabric and assert their rights over their cultural heritage.
4. **Academic and Linguistic Research**: Documenting tribal languages offers valuable material for researchers in linguistics, anthropology, and related fields. It also enhances our understanding of language evolution, contact, and structure.
5. The entire documentation process should adhere the latest standards as prescribed by **Central Institute for Indian Languages, Mysuru**.

Eligibility

- Individuals who have contributed to the cultural heritage and familiar with the dialect and have published works on the research of the tribal dialect, institutions and organizations with expertise in linguistic, anthropology and related fields
- Post Graduate passed out students in the field of tribal related research.
- Proven experience in language documentation and preservation
- A strong commitment to the preservation of indigenous languages.
- The preference shall be given to the students who can communicate Irula, Narikurava, kani and Toda languages.

Evaluation Criteria

- Relevance to the project objectives
- Clarity and feasibility of the methodology
- Qualifications and experience of the team
- Adequacy of the budget
- Potential impact of the project.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals should be submitted to the official website of **tntribalwelfare.tn.gov.in.** The proposals should be submitted in the prescribed format by **23 the December, 2024.**

G. LAXMI PRIYA,
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

FORMAT FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS UNDER"
DOCUMENTATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE OF TRIBES IN TAMIL NADU

1. Project Title:

2. State:

3. (a) Broad area of Cultural Heritage:

   (b) Specific cultural aspects of tribes to be documented:-

4. Duration (Total number of months)

5. Budgetary submission (As annexed with this)

6. Award/Prize/Certificate won etc :

7. **Publications** (Name and numbers):

   Books

   Research Paper

   Reports on Tribal Issues

   General articles- References

   Patent rights

   Others (please specify)

8. **Principal Investigator** :

    Name :

    Department:

    Designation:

    Organisation / Institution Name:

    Address (Including Telephone (official & residence), E-mail, Fax, Pin)

    Date of Birth :

    Sex (M/F):

9. **Consultant** :

    Name :

    Specialist :

    Individual Research :

    Organisation /Inst. Name: NA

    Address : (Including Telephone (official & residence), E-mail, Fax, Pin)

    Date of Birth:

    Sex (M/F):

10. **Project Assistant:**

    Name :

    Designation:

    Address:

    Date of Birth:

    Sex (M/F) :

11. Description of Proposal

- ➢ Objectives of the project. (Brief and to the point)
- ➢ Preliminary Investigations done by organisation. (if any)
- ➢ Other organisations working in this area
- ➢ Methodology detailing stepwise activities and sub-activities.

12. Work Plan

Phase-wise plan of action upto post project activities detailing time schedule Milestones may clearly be indicated. Chart may be attached.

13. Output of the Project

Attempt may be made to quantify output in measurable parameters.

14. Likely Impact (Please attempt to quantify)

15. Parameters for monitoring effectiveness of project

16. Suggested Post Project Activities

Annexure: For Budgetary Submission

Sl. No.	Description	Amount	Remarks, if any
1.	Non-Recurring		
2.	Recurring		
3.	Project Staff		
4.	Project Associates		
5.	Honorarium for project head		
6.	Field Work		
7.	Consumables		
8.	Contingency		
9.	Travel		
10.	Over head		
11.	Grand Total.		

Instructions for filling application form

1. Last date of application is 23.12.2024. Proposal receiving after the due date will not be considered
2. All required certificates and photos should be attached along with the application
3. Selection will be based on purely merit.
4. Proposals are invited through the mail id: dir.dtw@tn.gov.in / tntribalwelfare2018@gmail.com