

PRESS RELEASE

Countdown to the seventh edition of Samvaad begins

Jamshedpur, November 6, 2020: Tata Steel Foundations's signature programme Samvaad, a one-of-its kind tribal conclave, will have its seventh edition from **November 15 to 19** primarily on digital platforms given the constraints in physical outreach in the last few months.

Samvaad witnesses participation through its year-long engagement of about 10,000 tribal women and men from across the country and around the globe each year. Despite the challenges, intense efforts to encourage dialogue that is relevant to the tribal narrative and endeavours to preserve a treasure trove of wisdom that has answers to the challenges the world faces today, will continue.

The pan-India conclave this year is themed '**Coming Together for Social Change**' representing a belief that there are inherent aspects of tribalism that places seamlessness as a core value of society as well as our experience of some wonderful stories of tribal communities coming together to positively influence their core development challenges.

"The ongoing limitations on physical assembly and movement have compelled us to recalibrate the model this year, but we have tried our best to come up with a format, combining a digital platform with physical on ground outreach, that is effective," said Sourav Roy, Chief (Corporate Social Responsibility), Tata Steel.

The conclave will hear stories from across the country who will engage in experience sharing sessions in various areas that affect the communities and enrich the platform with their thoughts. The five days will therefore witness a cross-pollination of ideas among more than 1000 tribal women and men who are expected to join us and celebrate the vibrant cultures of the different tribes.

The many offshoots of Samvaad such as tribal handicraft, tribal film screenings, tribal cuisine and the cultural performances from various tribes that contribute significantly to the essence of Samvaad will bring the traditional practices and rich heritage to the common masses through its YouTube channel.

Samvaad will celebrate traditional cuisines of 16 tribes across 10 state with the dishes exclusively available for the people of Jamshedpur on online food aggregator platform Zomato.

Tribal films will be screened on the YouTube channel which will be held followed by discussions with the filmmakers. Masterclasses on Oraon, Sohrai, Saura, Gond, Warli and Rajwar Bhittichitra art forms will also be held by tribal artisans as they decode the Samvaad canvas that serves as a reminder of the beauty of collectivization. Each day will conclude with cultural performances from celebrated artists like Guru Rewben from Manipur and Tetseo Sisters from Nagaland and groups including the tribes of Galo, Siddhi, Dandami Madia, Bhumij.

This year will also witness the release of a musical composition as a tribute to Birsa Munda, curated by Padma Shri Mukund Nayak (Kunjbhan) and the Samvaad musical collective, Rhythms of the Earth.

The Samvaad ecosystem, over the last five years, has developed into a platform that has reached out to more than 30,000 people from 117 tribes across 27 states of India and 18 countries and has been part of the dialogue along with several eminent leaders, development practitioners, thinkers, bureaucrats, artists, scientists, authors and musicians who share a conviction in the indigenous.