



**"National Level Conference on PESA"**  
dated 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

**Maharashtra State**

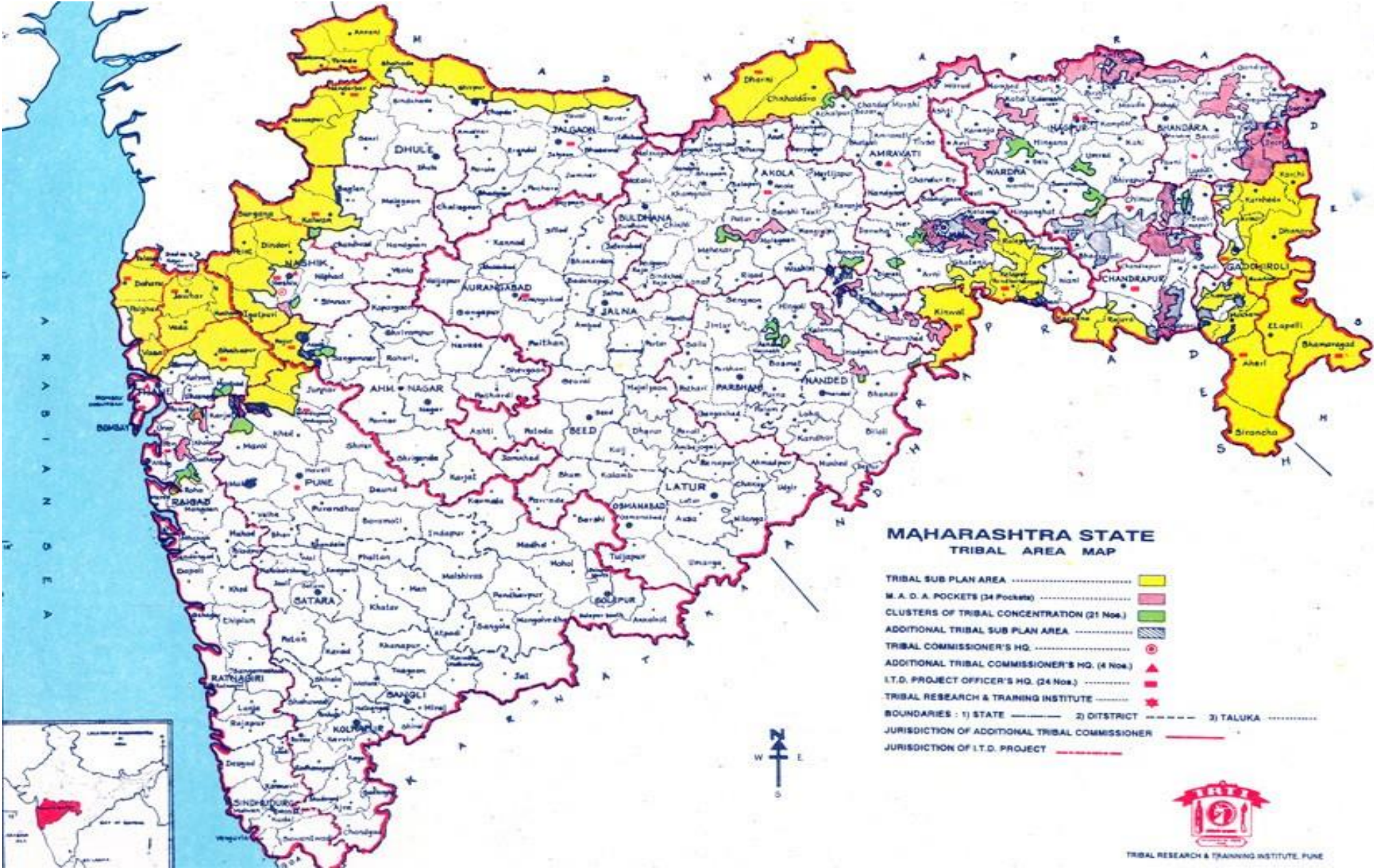
# 1. PESA Act, 1996

- The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 came into force on December 24, 1996.
- The Government of Maharashtra has enacted the **PESA Rules** on March 4, 2014.
- In Maharashtra, the Act covers **13 Districts** in the Scheduled Area (Pune, Thane, Palghar, Ahmednagar, Nashik, Nandurbar, Dhule, Jalgaon, Nanded, Amravati, Yavatmal, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli), **59 Blocks** and of **2895 Gram Panchayats** includes **6304 PESA villages.**

# 1. Continued...

Sr. No.	Name of District	PESA Block			No. of PESA GPs			Total No. of PESA Villages		
		Fully covered	Partially covered	Total Block	Fully	Partially	Total	Fully	Partially	Total
1	Pune	0	2	2	75	8	83	128	0	128
2	Thane	1	2	3	193	11	204	932	0	932
3	Palghar	6	2	8	410	1	411	748	0	748
4	Nashik	3	6	9	220	354	574	485	484	969
5	Ahmednagar	0	1	1	77	2	79	2	92	94
6	Jalgaon	0	3	3	28	4	32	58	0	58
7	Dhule	0	2	2	0	130	130	0	187	187
8	Nandurbar	4	2	6	516	2	518	869	0	869
9	Nanded	0	2	2	124	0	124	168	0	168
10	Amaravati	2	0	2	114	0	114	301	0	301
11	Yavatmal	0	6	6	145	19	164	332	0	332
12	Chandrapur	0	3	3	36	58	94	191	0	191
13	Gadchiroli	7	5	12	311	52	363	1327	0	1327
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2249</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>2895</b>	<b>5541</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>6304</b>

# Maharashtra Scheduled Area map





## 2. Action taken by Government of Maharashtra for effective implementation of PESA Act

### **1) Amendments in various Acts relating to Scheduled Areas and PESA Act:**

The Government of Maharashtra has made amendments in various laws related to the PESA Act, such as Maharashtra Gram Panchayat Act, Revenue Act, Money Lending Prevention Act, Forest Act etc.

### **2) Various notifications issued by Hon'ble Governor :**

Hon'ble Governor of the State of Maharashtra has issued various notifications regarding recruitments, reservations etc. under the Scheduled Areas and PESA Act to give impetus to the implementation of the PESA Act.

## 2. Action taken by Government of Maharashtra for effective implementation of PESA Act

### **3) PESA Rules 2014 :**

The Government of Maharashtra has enacted the PESA Rules on March 4, 2014.

### **4) PESA 5% Untied Fund Scheme :**

Hon'ble Governor of the State of Maharashtra has announced the PESA 5% Untied Fund Scheme for the Scheduled Areas by notification dated October 30, 2014. Provision has made to provide 5% amount of total outlay of the Scheduled Tribes Plan to PESA Gram Panchayats. Maharashtra is the only state in the country to implement the "PESA 5% Abandh Nidhi Yojana".

## 2. Action taken by Government of Maharashtra for effective implementation of PESA Act

### **5) Establishment of State PESA Cell :**

- To implement the PESA Act, the Government of Maharashtra has set up a State PESA Cell under the Rural Development Department funded by Tribal Development Department.
- A senior level officer with the rank of Additional Chief Executive Officer has been appointed for this cell. The State PESA Cell has also been set up with a total of four posts including State PESA Coordinator and two others.

## 2. Action taken by Government of Maharashtra for effective implementation of PESA Act

### **6) Implementation of various Capacity Building and Training activities (CB&T) :**

Funds are provided through the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan for training and capacity building of elected representatives, government officials and employees and other Stake Holders in the Scheduled Areas of the State of Maharashtra. From the year 2014-15, a large number of capacity building activities have implemented for various components. Also, an initiative called Gram Sabha Mobilization is implemented to strengthen the Gram Sabhas.



## 2. Action taken by Government of Maharashtra for effective implementation of PESA Act

### **7) Independent Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) for PESA villages :**

The Central Government has started an initiative called Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) from the year 2014-15. Under this initiative, annual and five year plan of each Gram Panchayat is prepared. Special provision has made for Gram Panchayats in Scheduled Areas. Along with the Gram Panchayats a separate annual and five-year plans are prepared for each PESA village. The Gram Sabhas of PESA village have full authority to prepare plans. As separate plan is prepared for each PESA village, activities are implemented based on the needs of PESA village, resulting the development of PESA villages in the Scheduled Area is gaining a momentum.

## 3. Achievements

### **1) Formation of new PESA villages :**

The PESA Rules 2014, provides authority for the formation of new PESA villages. Around 3000 new PESA villages are formed in the Scheduled Areas till date.

## 3. Achievements

### **2) Outcome of PESA 5% Untied Fund Scheme :**

Since 2015, 1320 Crore are distributed to the Gram Panchayats and PESA villages in the Scheduled Areas. A separate “Gram Sabha Kosh” has been set up for each PESA village for PESA 5% Untied fund. “PESA 5% Abandh Nidhi Yojana” has created an independent identity for Gram Sabhas. PESA villages prepare the development plans independently, keeping in view the local needs. Proper management of Minor Forest Produces has resulted significant increase in income. Also, untied funds are appropriately used to preserve traditions and customs in some of villages.

## 3. Achievements

### **3) Royalty from the auction of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) :**

In the state of Maharashtra, a "Natural Resource and Management Committee" and "Gram Sabha Kosh" are constituted by Gram Sabha for each PESA village. Hon'ble Governor has issued a notification regarding the right to collect and sell Minor Forest Produce (MFP). Tendu leaves, Bamboo, medicinal plants, Moha flowers etc. is widely available in the Scheduled Areas. In the past, Minor Forest Produce (MFP) was sold by the Forest Department. In this process, only big traders were beneficiaries. However, the right to sell and dispose of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) has given directly to PESA villages, resulting some of the PESA villages have become self-sufficient due to the amount of royalty.

## 4. Road Map

The next one year goal of the State for the implementation of the Scheduled Areas and PESA Act :

### **1) Strengthening of Maharashtra State PESA Cell:-**

The Scope of PESA Act is wide in nature and there is no proper mechanism available for the implementation. Therefore, considering the scope of Scheduled Areas in the State, it is proposed to strengthen the Maharashtra State PESA Cell for effective implementation of the PESA Act.

## 4. Road Map

### **2) Provision of Untied Funds for the development of non-tribals in the Scheduled Areas is proposed:-**

For the development of Scheduled Areas in the State, the scheme of giving 5% of the Tribal Component Scheme to PESA Gram Panchayats in proportion to the tribal population has been started from the year 2015-16. This fund is given in proportion to the tribal population in the scheduled area. However, due to the large population of non-tribal communities in many villages in the Scheduled Areas, it is proposed to make a budgetary provision for non-tribal population in proportion to the total population of the Scheduled Areas.



## 4. Road Map

### **3) To make PESA rules and rulings more consistent with PESA Act: -**

The PESA Act confers special powers to the Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas in the Scheduled Area. It is proposed to harness this power to its full potential and develop it as a Self Governmental institution of Panchayats and Gram Sabhas.

## 4. Road Map

**4) To prepare Data-base of various information in the scheduled area:-**

Gram Panchayats, Villages, Wadis, Hamlets, Padas, Populations and other basic forms of Information from Scheduled Areas is not available in aggregate form at present. Therefore, by collecting this information and publishing it through a separate web portal on the subject of PESA.

## 4. Road Map

### **5) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Activities :-**

Information, education and communication activities and programs will be implemented in the local language of the tribal to promote and disseminate the PESA Act more effectively.

## 5. Expected measures to be taken for effective implementation of PESA Act- (Recommendations by the State)

- For the sustainable development of the Scheduled Area and for the effective implementation of the PESA Act, it seems necessary for the Central Government to implement a **‘National level Comprehensive Scheme for PESA’**.
- For the development of Scheduled Areas, the provision of Untied Funds on the lines of Maharashtra needs to be done in the form of a scheme.
- **This includes**, development of **basic infrastructure, training and capacity building activities, IEC activities**, setting up of **dedicated mechanism** for implementation of PESA schemes / activities, **monitoring, evaluation** etc.
- An independent Directorate is required for PESA. This requires manpower and dedicated machinery.

## 5. Expected measures to be taken for effective implementation of PESA Act- (Recommendations by the State)

- It is needed to emphasis on **sustainable livelihood** of the tribal.
- It is also necessary to **include activities** for the **preservation and promotion of tribal traditions, customs, rituals, tribal culture, language**, etc.
- Scheduled Area declared in 1985. But after 35 years, there has been some changes in the population of the Scheduled Area. Therefore, there is a need for expansion in the scheduled area.
- In accordance with PESA, it is necessary to ensure compatibility with the Panchayati Raj Department and other government departments.

An aerial photograph of a village in Maharashtra, India. The village features several traditional houses with red-tiled roofs and a few modern buildings, including one with a dome. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and vegetation. A large, golden, stylized text overlay is centered in the upper half of the image. The text is in Devanagari script and reads 'धन्यवाद' (Dhanyavaad), which means 'Thank you' in Hindi. The text is set against a semi-transparent white background.

धन्यवाद

**Government of Maharashtra**