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# Govt of India awards Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham with 'Centre of Excellence in Tribal Education'

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**NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 9:** Recognizing Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham's outstanding work in uplifting tribal populations in the fields of education, health and e-literacy, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, has bestowed on it the title the title of 'Centre of Excellence in Tribal Empowerment through Digital Inclusion (Amrita CoE-TEDI).

The ministry also highlighted the distinctive work done by the university that led to the fulfilment of United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals through its 101 adopted Amrita SeRve villages.

Dr. Prema Nedungadi, Director, Amrita Center for Research in Analytics & Technologies for Education (Amrita CREATE), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, said, "Amrita is honoured to have been given this distinction by the Tribal Ministry. Our immediate plans are to understand baseline data and the impact of technology in areas such as digital literacy, oral-contraceptive use, oral hygiene, micronutrient deficiencies, digital safety, antenatal-health monitoring, and vaccination, as well as with our Adolescent Ambassadors for Awareness programme. We have also already completed awareness training in the dangers of substance abuse to 1,000 tribal students."

Dr Nedungadi added, "We are presently focussing to work in the tribal areas of Odisha, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh."

Dr. Venkat Rangan, Vice Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, said, "It is an honour to receive this recognition from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Chancellor Mata Amritanandamayi Devi's vision and service to the most impoverished remote and rural areas of the country has paved the way for this. We expect this multi-disciplinary collaboration to impact more than 9,000 beneficiaries in the next few years at the grassroots level, and culminate in policy changes at the highest level."

Amrita CoE-TEDI is multidisciplinary with expertise participation coming from a diverse array of Amrita's departments, including Community Medicine, Public Dentistry, Nutrition and Social & Data Science, as well as Amrita CREATE.