

Revisiting the State

AN ENQUIRY INTO IDEAS OF TRIBAL WELFARE IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO JHARKHAND

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Key puzzle

- How have **ideas of tribal welfare held by the bureaucracy** at different levels – national, sub-national, and local -- impacted state's capacity to deliver on implementation of Constitutional safeguards in favour of India's tribal population since Independence
- What significance do the **nature and characteristics of political executive – bureaucratic interaction** hold for the state's capacity for tribal welfare at the national and subnational levels

Theoretical framework: why ideas within the State ?

- State as an autonomous actor
- **State capacity as a polymorphous process**
- Ideas within the state and its capacity
- Ideation or politics – what determines outcomes?

Tribes and tribal welfare

- What is a 'tribe' and what does tribal welfare mean?
- **Explaining subnational variations in policy outcomes**
- Civil society actors, tribal politics, and the state
- National tribal welfare regime – evolution and linkages
- Jharkhand, and its historical location

Can the state deliver on tribal welfare?

- **Is there a world beyond violence and conflict?**
- Rights based legislation
- Participation with protection
- State as an arbiter and facilitator
- Programmatic versus identity/indigeneity driven politics

Methodology

- ▶ Comparing along multiple axes: tribal – non-tribal/scheduled – non-scheduled areas/
- ▶ Tracing the evolution and implementation of tribal welfare regimes at national and state levels
- ▶ Analysis of:
 - ▶ Primary sources: interviews, non-participant observation
 - ▶ Secondary sources: government documents and reports, parliament and assembly debates, census and budgetary data, archival material of political parties and ministries

Thank you