



**TRIBAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES IN INDIA:
AN OVERVIEW**

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RESEARCH GUIDE

ABSTRACT

India has the largest concentration of tribal people anywhere in the world except perhaps in Africa. The tribes are the children of nature and their lifestyle is conditioned by the ecosystem. India with a variety of ecosystems presents a varied tribal population throughout its length and breadth. The areas inhabited by the tribal constitute a significant part of the under developed areas of the country. Tribal population lives mostly in isolated villages or hamlets. A smaller portion of their population has now settled in permanent villages as well as in towns and cities. On the whole, as per rough estimates, the prominent tribal areas constitute about 15 percent of the total geographical area of the country. Scheduled Tribes, Schedules Castes and de-notified tribes constitute the weakest section of India's population. Tribal communities interacted with the non-tribal, caste Hindu communities but largely remained separate from the social structure.

KEYWORDS

Adivasi, Schedules Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Tribal Population, Constitution