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Q6(a)

Discuss the objectives of Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs). How far have these objectives been achieved?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Anthropology GS 2 · 20 marks · Developmental projects and their impact on tribal displacement and problems of rehabilitation. Development of forest policy and tribals. Impact of...

6.3 Developmental projects and their impact on tribal displacement and problems of rehabilitation. Development of forest policy and tribals. Impact of urbanisation and industrialisation on tribal populations.

Core demand of the question

- Discuss the objectives of Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs). How far have these objectives been achieved?
- Keep the answer to a 20-mark length of about 250 words

Revision summary

ITDPs are **Tribal Sub-Plan** area projects, often called ITDAs.

Objectives were integrated poverty reduction, services, and resource protection.

Schools, roads, and clinics expanded in many blocks.

Xaxa recorded leakage and weak control over land and mining.

FRA and PESA had to carry the resource objective that projects missed.

Introduction

Integrated Tribal Development Projects are area programmes under the **Tribal Sub-Plan** that bundle welfare, infrastructure, and livelihoods in tribal blocks. The objective was to replace scattered schemes with one local command.

Body

Stated objectives

- After the **Dhebar** and later **Shilu Ao** reviews, the **Tribal Sub-Plan** (1970s) created **ITDPs** (often run as **ITDAs**) for blocks with high Scheduled Tribe shares.
- Objectives include reducing poverty, raising literacy and health, protecting land and forest access, and funding agriculture, irrigation, and roads in one pocket.
- Integration meant one project officer instead of leaking line departments. **Fifth Schedule** land rules and later **PESA** were supposed to sit beside the project, not against it.

What has been achieved

- Roads, schools, and primary health centres did expand in many ITDP blocks. Literacy and some farm schemes are visible.
- A local office gave Adivasi areas a bureaucratic address that the 1950s Community Development block often lacked, a gap **S. C. Dube** had already shown in village programmes.

Shortfalls

- The **Xaxa Committee** found leakage, contractor capture, and weak ST employment inside the project itself.
- Land alienation and mining continued in the same blocks. **FRA, 2006** and **Samata** had to do land work that ITDP budgets did not.
- Integration on paper remained departmental in practice. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups often stayed at the edge of the same project.
- Displacement from dams and mines reversed years of ITDP investment in the same catchment.

Reading

- ITDPs achieved infrastructure better than they achieved control over resources. That is half the original aim.

Flow diagram

Tribal Sub-Plan -> ITDP ITDA
ITDP ITDA -> Schools roads health
ITDP ITDA -> Leakage land loss
FRA PESA PESA -> Resource rights

Conclusion

ITDPs aimed at one-window tribal area development under the Sub-Plan. They built some services and failed to secure land, forest, and leakage-free livelihoods.

Facts & figures

Tribal Sub-Plan

1970s budgeting frame that created ITDPs for high-ST blocks.

ITDA

Integrated Tribal Development Agency, the usual administrative name of the project office.

Xaxa Committee

Found that tribal sub-plan money and ITDPs did not stop alienation or capture.

FRA 2006

Forest rights law that addresses a resource gap ITDP infrastructure did not close.

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