

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q5(a)

Impact of urbanization and industrialization on tribal communities of India.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Anthropology GS 2 · 10 marks · The concept of ethnicity

7.3 The concept of ethnicity; Ethnic conflicts and political developments; Unrest among tribal communities; Regionalism and demand for autonomy; Pseudo-tribalism. Social change among the tribes during colonial and post-Independent India.

Core demand of the question

- Show how urbanisation and industrialisation reach tribal communities
- Give livelihood, kinship, health and political effects with named regions
- Include displacement law, FRA and labour, not only a mood of loss

Revision summary

Impacts are in the resource belt and in migrant cities, not only one story of loss.

Samata, Niyamgiri, FRA and the 2013 land Act are the legal brakes on dispossession.

Urban STs face certificate portability and informal work.

Kinship stretches; identity is restaged in unions, churches and student bodies.

- **Xaxa's theme:** development without consent produces cash beside a broken commons.

Introduction

Urbanisation and industrialisation do not wait for a tribe to "arrive" in a city. Mines, steel towns, dams, highways and labour markets move into the hills, and young people move out. The impact is both **in situ** (Jharkhand coal, Odisha bauxite, Chhattisgarh plants) and **in the city** (Bastar in Raipur, Santhal in Mumbai, North-East in Delhi).

Body

In the resource belt

Factories and mines buy land, water and quiet. **Samata** (1997) tried to stop easy transfer of Scheduled Area land to non-tribals for mining. **Niyamgiri** (2013) put Gram Sabha in the path of bauxite. **Land Acquisition Act, 2013** (RFCTLARR) requires consent and R&R; practice still produces **kaccha colonies** beside plants. Industrialisation here means a **wage next to a broken commons**, not a full proletariat with a union clinic.

Urbanisation of the tahsil town brings PDS shops, coaching, and also liquor, land brokers and a thana that speaks Hindi. Kinship stretches: a brother in the plant, a sister in a hostel, elders on residual jhum or tendu.

In the metropolis

Circular migration - brick kilns, construction, domestic work, security - urbanises the household without urbanising rights. Slum STs often cannot use the **ST certificate** of the

home state for local jobs (**portability** limits). Churches, dhumkuria associations and WhatsApp kin groups recreate a little village. Health follows the pattern of Q3(b): TB, anaemia, unsafe abortions.

Political and cultural

Industrial belts produce both **trade-union STs** and **sarpanch contractors**. Ethnic student unions in cities (NSUI is not the point; Naga and Adivasi student bodies are) keep identity hot. Sanskritisation in town and revival of dance festivals on Republic Day can happen in one family.

CAMPA plantations and **PESA** paper-compliance often fail when a municipal or industrial authority sits on the same land. **Xaxa** called this development without community consent. The gain is cash, school and a wider marriage market. The loss is grove, language density and a generation that is informal labour, not "tribal beneficiary".

Flow diagram

Mine dam plant -> Village commons
City labour -> Split household
Village commons -> Samata Niyamgiri FRA
Split household -> Samata Niyamgiri FRA

Conclusion

Industry and the city enter tribal life as mine, migrant room and tahsil town. Law (Samata, Niyamgiri, FRA, 2013 acquisition) can slow dispossession; it has not equalised urban citizenship. The community becomes a split household, not a vanished tribe.

Facts & figures

Samata 1997

Supreme Court restricted mining leases on tribal land in Scheduled Areas to protect against alienation to non-tribals.

RFCTLARR 2013

Requires consent and rehabilitation for much acquisition; implementation in mining districts remains contested.

Circular migration

Households keep a village base and a city wage, so urbanisation is partial and often without local ST benefits.