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Q6(b)**Discuss the impact of democratic institutions on the tribal populations of India**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Anthropology GS 2 · 15 marks · Social change and contemporary tribal societies

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7.2 Social change and contemporary tribal societies: Impact of modern democratic institutions, development programmes and welfare measures on tribals and weaker sections.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA)

Extends Panchayat systems to **Fifth Schedule** areas, empowering Gram Sabhas with ownership over minor forest produce and minor minerals.

Constitution of India, Fifth Schedule

Provides for the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states other than Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.

Constitution of India, Sixth Schedule

Provides for autonomous district councils (ADCs) to protect tribal autonomy in the north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.

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