

RESEARCH

The objectives of research in tribal affairs may be summarized as ascertainment of the initial status and level of each tribal group formulation and implementation of policies and programmes consonant with the genius and culture of each group, monitoring and evaluation of the impact of implementation, determination of any change in the identity and culture of the tribal groups etc. In the days of the Dhebar Commission, they could think of sample surveys, as not many studies had been conducted earlier and tribal development programmes had not come into full swing. Four decades later, much of the tribal landscape has metamorphosed. In one sense, there has been advancement, since socio-economic and infrastructural programmes have left their mark and the physical and cultural distance has shrunk. At the same time, it has to be admitted that the original identity and personality of the tribal groups is being eroded. It is not a new question. Nevertheless, fresh thinking needs to be applied in the new context. While research studies need to embrace many other aspects, this is 'one which is often overlooked and, hence, bears reiteration.	
2. Which are the different agencies in your state involved in research, both of original and applied type? Please list them out and assign the fields in which they have been working. Examples may be the TRI, Universities, Bureaus of Economics and Statistics, ICMR, National Commission for SCST, National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for women etc., government and non-government academic bodies.	Regional Medical Research Centre (ICMR) is involved in carrying out research in tribal health among the tribal population of Andaman and Nicobar islands and the broad areas of research in tribal health include : • Communicable diseases • Nutritional status of the tribes • Genetic disorders including red cell genetic abnormality among the tribes • Genetic diversity of the tribal population