India

Ethnicity in India

Group selection

The following groups are considered politically relevant at the national level: **Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs), Other Backward Classes (Castes), Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Muslims, Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs), Marathi (non-SC/ST), Tamil (non-SC/ST), Bengali (non-SC/ST), Gujarati (non-SC/ST/OBCs), Kannada (non-SC/ST/OBCs), Malyalam (non-SC/ST), Oriya (non-SC/ST), Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs), Assamese (non-SC/ST), Kashmiri Muslims, Manipuri, Naga, Mizo, Indigenous Tripuri, and Bodo.**

Power relations

Regional differences, though important, are not the only differences that matter in Indian politics. Religion and, more importantly, caste, play an even more important role in Indian politics. However, it is difficult to incorporate religion, caste and regional differences together in calculating ethnic fractionalization since caste and regional identities cross-cut. This problem should be kept in mind when relying on EPR data for India. The current coding, reflecting only regional identities, does not reflect the ethnic make-up and power configuration correctly. Despite the dominance of the Congress party till the late 1980s, regional groups have always been provided representation in the Indian cabinets.

While we can safely say that the Hindi speakers were the senior partners until 1991, we cannot use the senior-junior classification for the phase after 1991. The southern parties (Telugu, Tamil, Kannda and Malyalam especially the first two) were clearly more influential in the second phase. It appears still worthwhile considering the different regions as equal partners in the government

The same holds for the time after 1999, although Hindi speakers were more influential (albeit marginally). The senior-junior categorization is used simply because there is no alternative. Also, Punjabi & Sikh categories have been combined into one. It does not make sense to include them as separate categories, although all Sikhs are Punjabis but not all Punjabis are Sikhs. This is because non-Sikh Punjabis are not politically active or salient (they do not have their own party but Sikhs do).

Since 1999, political mobilization along the lines of castes became acute. The Dalits and OBCs became politically assertive and captured power in many states and displaced upper caste hegemony. At the centre, such regional/caste based parties enjoyed greater participation in political power by becoming strong partner in the coalition government. Further, local self government/Panchayati raj act was also introduced during this period. With this, even at local level, the deprived and discriminated groups so far captured power wherever their concentration was significantly high. Thus from the local level to the Parliament, existing power relation between different ethnosocial groups got altered. And this trend is likely to continue for sometime in the future.

EPR deliberately underestimates all population shares in relation to the census numbers of linguistic groups, owing to the fact that EPR recognizes “Scheduled Tribes” & “Scheduled Castes" as well as "Other Backward Classes/Castes" as distinct ethnic categories. These groups are probably members in all other groups but especially among the Hindi speaking population which explains why the official Hindi speaking population is listed with a population share of approximately 0.4 in the census but only with 0.26 in EPR.

In 2009, Freedom House ([2450]) notes that Muslims are underrepresented in public office and reports a trend of more overt discrimination against Muslims. However, discrimination from officials takes place at communal and social levels, and is not systematically political.

[2450] [Freedom House, 2010]

Following the 2009 parliamentary elections, the Cabinet remained dominated by the United Progressive Alliance, led by the Congress Party, with the main rival, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance in opposition. Manmohan Singh remained as Prime Minister for a second term (in office since 2004) ([2451]; [2452]; [2453]). Overall, this suggests that there was little if any shifts in the political representation of the various ethnic groups, reflecting perhaps also the stability of democracy in India more generally ([2454]). Also there were no major changes in the states of India, and thus access to autonomy provisions of specific groups.

[2451] [Freedom House, 2014]
[2452] [Freedom House, 2010]
[2453] [US Deparment of State, 2013]
[2454] [Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2014]

In 2014, there was a change in the executive, as well as the creation of the state Telangana ([2455]).

[2455] [Freedom House, 2014]

Kashmiri Muslims

The National Coalition is the Kashmiri political party that is clearly distinct from the Muslim League ([2456], 177) prior to independence. It was also the driving force behind Kashmiri nationalism until the mid-1980s. Varshney ([2457], 1006) distinguishes between Kashmiri Muslims and Jammu Muslims on the grounds of ethnicitiy. The Kashmiri valley is home to 95 % Kashmiri Muslims who speak a different language (Kashmiri) than most other Muslims in India (Urdu or local languages). Moreover, Nehru promised Kashmiri Muslims a right to self-determination at independence although

[2456] [Jalal, 1995]
[2457] [Varshney, 1991]

this has later been denied by the Indian government ([2458], 176). In 1953 Sheikh Abduallah, the leader of the National Coalition is imprisoned and token minisiters are put into his place. From 1953 to 1975 Kashmir was divested of any prerogatives it once had vis-a-vis other states. Sheikh Abdullah becomes prime minister once more in 1976. While Varshney mentions that the Article 370 of the Indian constitution that gives special rights to Kashmir was "kept alive" in 1975, Jalal concludes that "self-determination for Kashmiris was now history" ([2459], 179). When he dies in 1983 his son takes over the reigns of the National Coalition. Meddling by the Congress (I) Party with extremists (also see [2460]) and later coalition of the National Alliance and the Congress Party lead to the demise of the National Alliance and the predominance of more extremist Muslim Parties ([2461], 1017). In 1987 the National Alliance enters coalition with Congress after the state elections have been rigged to prevent more extremist Muslim parties to win a majority in the state parliament. It appears reasonable to code Kashmiri Muslims as powerless after the National Coalition ceases to have any power within Kashmir, i.e. after 1987.

[2458] [Jalal, 1995]

[2459] [Jalal, 1995]

[2460] [Brass, 1994]

[2461] [Varshney, 1991]

In 2008 Kashmiris were able to vote in an election that "has been notably free of violence and coercion", as the New York Times reports ([2462]). The grandson of Sheikh Abdullah captured the reigns of the state ministership. However, the Indian government has continued to interfere in state affairs repeatedly since and thousands of paramilitary troops are still roaming the area trying to capture rebels. At the moment it is too early, to revoke the powerless coding.

[2462] [New York Times, 2008]

Population of Jammu & Kashmir is about 64% Muslim. Only Muslims in Kashmir count towards Kashmiri Muslims and they make up about 97 to 99 per cent of all people living in the Kashmir valley. Based on 1981 and 2001 censuses population is between 0.0045 and 0.005. The 0.0045 are coded throughout all periods.

There are separatist groups and a strong conflict between India and Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir. There are claims of discrimination and human rights violations, especially within the framework of the “Armed Forces Act”. Nevertheless, the status “powerless” was maintained. Concerning the regional autonomy status of Kashmiri Muslims arguments in favour and against can be found: It has a special constitutionally granted autonomy status (article 370), which means that, except in the areas of defense, communication, finance and foreign policy, the decisions of the Indian parliament are not binding for Jammu and Kashmir ([2463]). Additionally, Mehbooba Mufti, a Muslim woman is the current Chief Minister. On the other hand, the “Armed Forces Act” is still in place, the BJP is trying to abolish some of the special privileges of this state and parties in favour of separation from India are not present on the official political scene ([2464]). Hence, the status “no regional autonomy” was chosen.

[2463] [The Times of India, 2014]

[2464] [Bukhari and Masroor, 2016]

In August 2019, following separatist insurgencies in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, which left armed forces personnel, police and

government officials dead, the central government announced major changes towards the constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir, ultimately revoking Article 370, which gave special status to the state and splitting the state into two union territories. This was followed by deployment of security forces, arrests of renowned political figures and shutting down internet and phone services ([2465]). This was condemned by various local and international stakeholders.

[2465] [BBC, 2019]

According to the USDS, political gatherings were restricted in Jammu and Kashmir to separatist political parties and occasionally members of political groups were detained by security forces upon peaceful assembly ([2466]). Also, Amnesty International reports on the increasing number of hate speech directed mainly towards Muslims in India including BPJ political leaders which have further ignited hatred and disunity ([2467]). Thus, we code Kashmiri Muslims as "discriminated" from 2020 following the EPR 1st January rule.

[2466] [US Department of State, 2019]

[2467] [The Hindu, 2019]

Bodo

With regards to the regional autonomy coding of the Bodo, according to Egreteau ([2468], 56) the peace accord between the Indian government and the Bodo freedom fighters created a Bodo Autonomous Council in February of 1993, "but the administrative's body territorial jurisdiction was scattered as most of the townships are not contiguous." Bhaumik ([2469], 23-4) reports that the deal never went into effect due to resistance by the Assamese and Bodo extremists. Bhaumik concludes that an effective settlement was only reached in 2003.

[2468] [Egreteau, 2006]

[2469] [Bhaumik, 2007]

Gujarati

Since May 2014 Narendra Modi, a Gujarati is India's Prime Minister. However, Modi doesn't politicize explicitly in favour of Gujaratis ([2470]). Hence the "junior partner" status was maintained. Instead, Modi, who also is from an OBC community, claims to politicize on behalf of that group, but nevertheless it is not enough to code the OBC as "senior partner".

[2470] [D'Souza, 2016]

Marathi

During the Singh and Modi governments a relatively large number of people from Maharashtra have occupied or are occupying ministerial positions ([2471]). However, most of them don't politicise explicitly in favour of Marathis. Hence the "junior partner" status was maintained.

[2471] [Gadgil, 2014]

Naga

There are still separatist groups and there are claims of discrimination against the Nagas, but keeping the "powerless" status is more appropriate (autociteMRG 2017). It could be argued that Nagaland does not have regional autonomy, since the "Armed Forces Act" is

in place ([2472]). This act gives strong powers to the military and has been critisized for enabling human rights violations ([2473]). Nevertheless, Nagaland has a legislative assembly, a state government and its Chief Minister T. R. Zeliang is a Naga (autociteDITN 2017). Hence the Nagas were coded as having regional autonomy.

[2472] [Hindustan Times, 2017]
[2473] [HRW, 2008]

Other Muslims

Since the BJP came to power in 2014 discrimination against Muslims has increased ([2474]). However, until August 2017 Mohammad Hamid Amsari, a Muslim, was India's Vice-president (The Economic Times 2017). While there is no political discrimination, there is discrimination on a socio-economic levels and the political elite is relatively inactive towards those acts (for example punishment of cow slaughter) ([2475]). Hence, the status powerless was chosen, as a compromise between socio-economic discrimination and some political participation (e.g. Vice president).

[2474] [Ashraf, 2017]
[2475] [Siddiqui et al., 2017]

In 2019, Modi was re-elected (first elected in 2014) after an astonishing victory winning the majority of the seats (303 out of 543) which was unprecedented up to 2019 and being elected as Prime Minister for another five-year term. An interesting feature about Modi is that he has never held a press-conference and could thus never be questioned about his stance on minority(mainly Muslims) issues ([2476]). However, in December 2019 the controversial Citizenships Amendment Bill was passed, which has sparked ongoing protests in the country, mainly led by students in defiance of this policy followed by the BJP party. The Citizenship Amendment Bill, unofficially referred to as the new "Anti-Muslim" law of India provides citizenship to religious minorities from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afganistan if they are Hindu, Sikh, Buddist, Jain, Parsi or Christian Buddist (not mentioning Muslim religious minorities). Critics have deemed the bill unconstitutional, considering that it violates the secular nature of the Indian constitution and the dubiosity around the exclusion of Muslim refugees from countries like Myanmar. As such, the bill would extend citizenship rights to non-Muslim illegal immigrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan but not Muslims per se ([2477]). Thus, we code Other Muslims as "discriminated" from 2020 following the EPR 1st January rule.

[2476] [BBC, 2019a]
[2477] [CBS, 2019]

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, two separate groups as they " do not share a common political and social history" and "are also culturally, linguistically and religiously distinct", have a similar political position, yet only the Scheduled Tribes enjoy regional autonomy ([2478]: 4). Since 2017 Ram Nath Kovind was elected as India's new president. However, the executive power lies within the Prime Minister. The council of ministers, which was voted by the Indian parliament in 2019, is composed mainly of wealthy men from Hindu-speaking states. To be more precise only 64% of the state

[2478] [Awasthi and Hirzel, 2016]

and union territories are represented in his government. However, in terms of caste, the new cabinet of 2019 represents the Schedules Castes and Scheduled Tribes better ([2479]).

[2479] [Mint, 2019]

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Political status of ethnic groups in Ir

From 1947 until 1948

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS

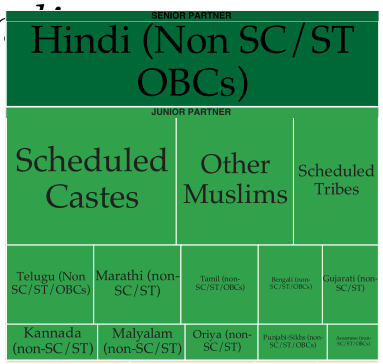

Figure 454: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1947-1948.

From 1949 until 1953

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS

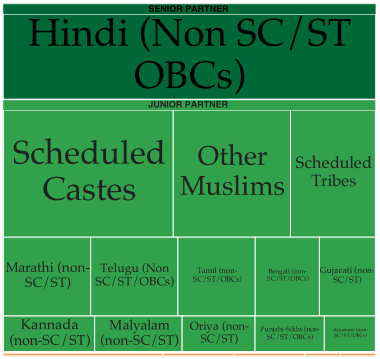

Figure 455: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1949-1953.

From 1954 until 1956

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS

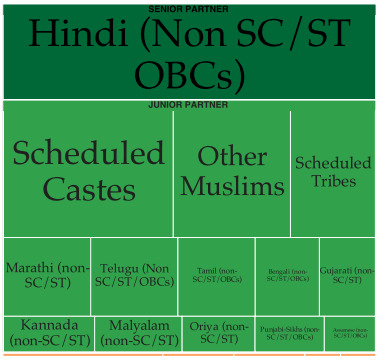

Figure 456: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1954-1956.

From 1957 until 1960

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS

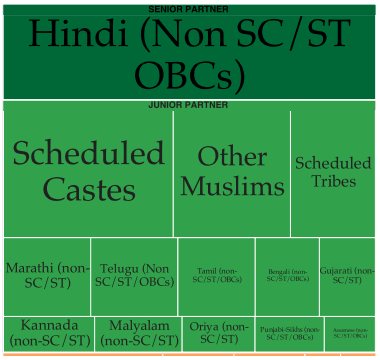

Figure 457: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1957-1960.

From 1961 until 1962

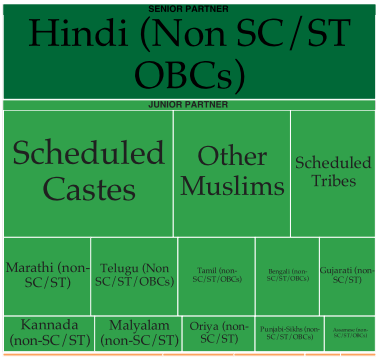

Figure 458: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1961-1962.

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS

From 1963 until 1966

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 1967 until 1971

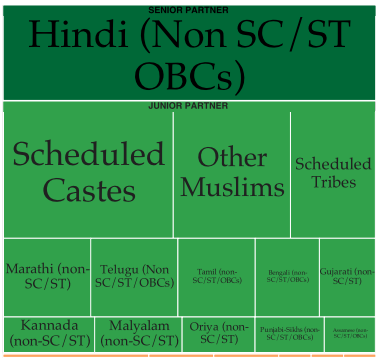

Figure 459: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1963-1966.

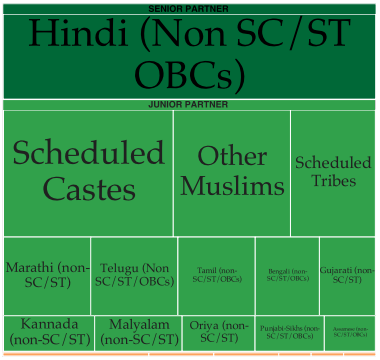

Figure 460: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1967-1971.

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 1972 until 1976

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.1666	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0833	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 1977 until 1986

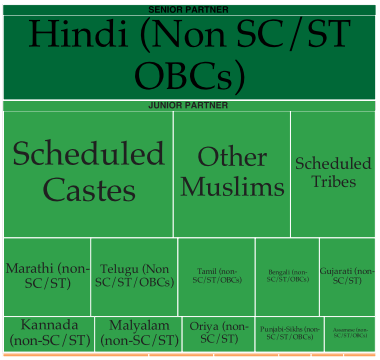

Figure 461: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1972-1976.

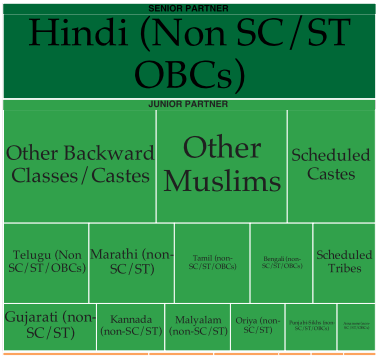

Figure 462: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1977-1986.

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 1987 until 1999

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 2000 until 2002

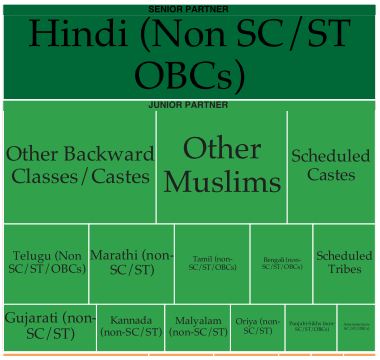

Figure 463: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 1987-1999.

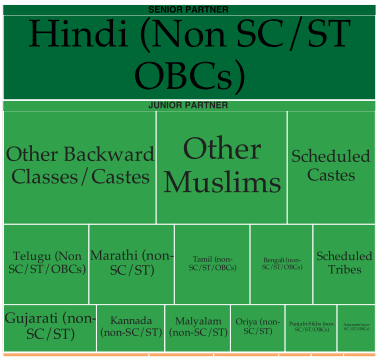

Figure 464: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 2000-2002.

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 2003 until 2014

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 2015 until 2019

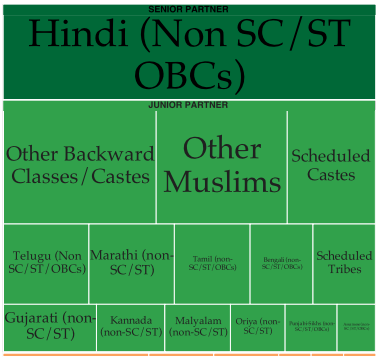

Figure 465: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 2003-2014.

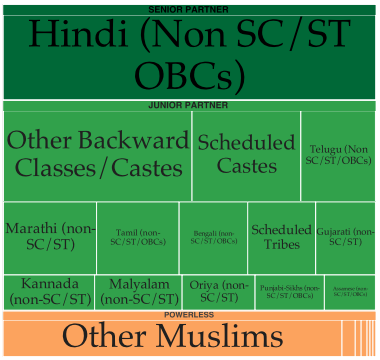

Figure 466: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 2015-2019.

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	POWERLESS
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	POWERLESS
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

From 2020 until 2021

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	0.263	SENIOR PARTNER
Other Backward Classes/Castes	0.134	JUNIOR PARTNER
Other Muslims	0.115	DISCRIMINATED
Scheduled Castes	0.0773	JUNIOR PARTNER
Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Marathi (non-SC/ST)	0.053	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.047	JUNIOR PARTNER
Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.039	JUNIOR PARTNER
Scheduled Tribes	0.0387	JUNIOR PARTNER
Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	0.034	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kannada (non-SC/ST)	0.025	JUNIOR PARTNER
Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	0.024	JUNIOR PARTNER
Oriya (non-SC/ST)	0.02	JUNIOR PARTNER
Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.019	JUNIOR PARTNER
Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	0.014	JUNIOR PARTNER
Kashmiri Muslims	0.0045	DISCRIMINATED
Manipuri	0.002	POWERLESS
Naga	0.002	POWERLESS
Indigenous Tripuri	0.001	POWERLESS
Bodo	0.001	POWERLESS
Mizo	0.001	POWERLESS

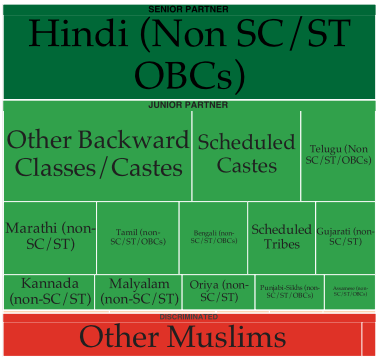

Figure 467: Political status of ethnic groups in India during 2020-2021.

Geographical coverage of ethnic groups in India

From 1947 until 1947

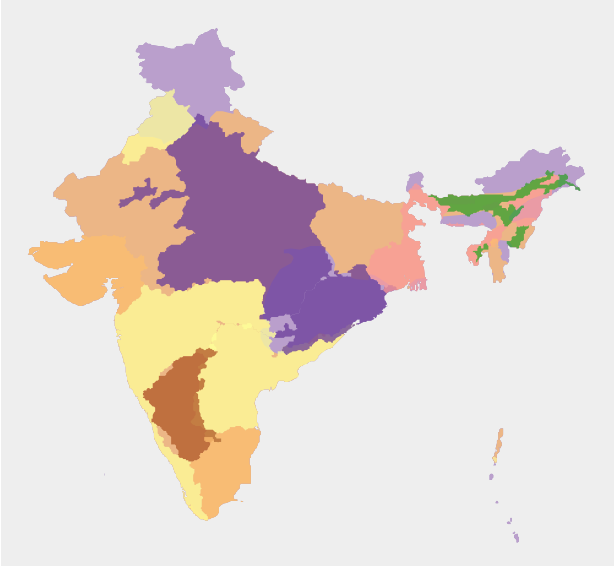

Figure 468: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1947-1947.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 820	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 848	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 166	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	73 291	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 435	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based

Table 163: List of ethnic groups in India during 1947-1947.

From 1948 until 1948

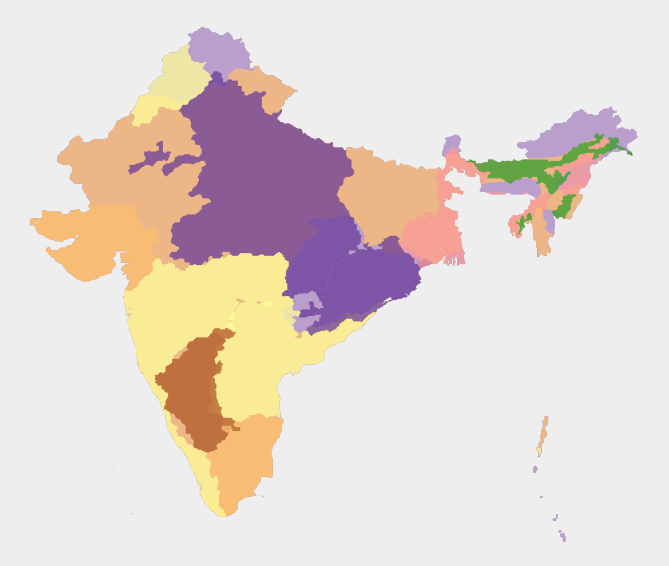

Figure 469: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1948-1948.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 046 196	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 046 196	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 815	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 847	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 151	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	73 283	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 400	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based

Table 164: List of ethnic groups in India during 1948-1948.

From 1949 until 1949

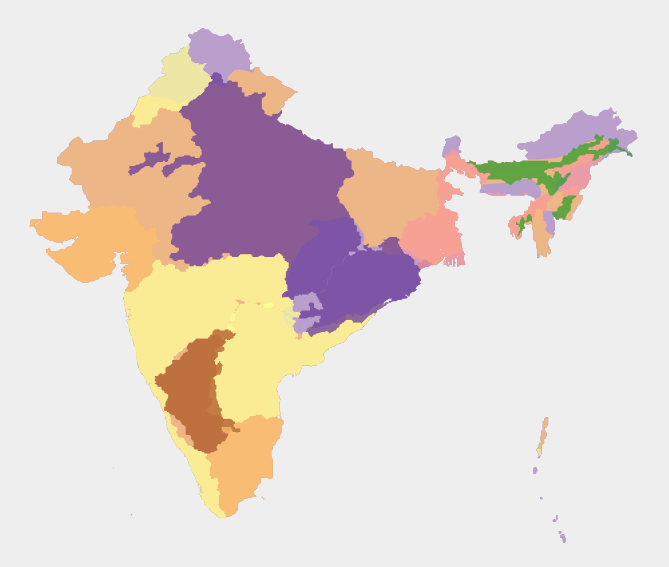

Figure 470: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1949-1949.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 046 197	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 046 197	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 815	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 847	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 151	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	73 284	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 400	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based
	Kashmiri Muslims	0	Regionally based

Table 165: List of ethnic groups in India during 1949-1949.

From 1950 until 1962

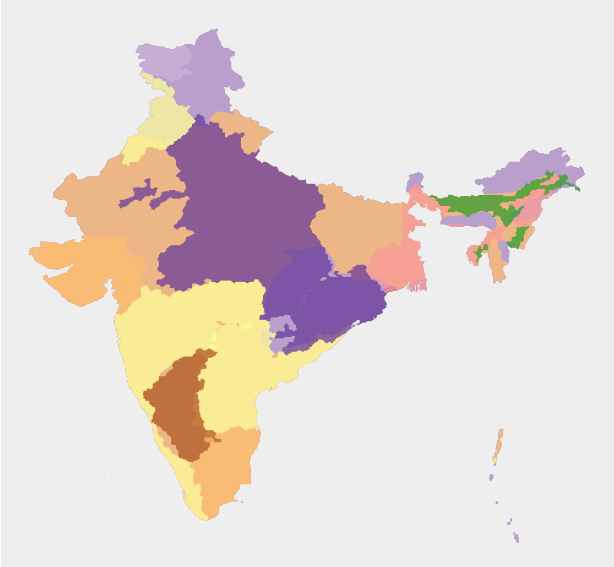

Figure 471: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1950-1962.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 815	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 847	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 151	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	81 112	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Kashmiri Muslims	39 964	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 400	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based

Table 166: List of ethnic groups in India during 1950-1962.

From 1963 until 1976

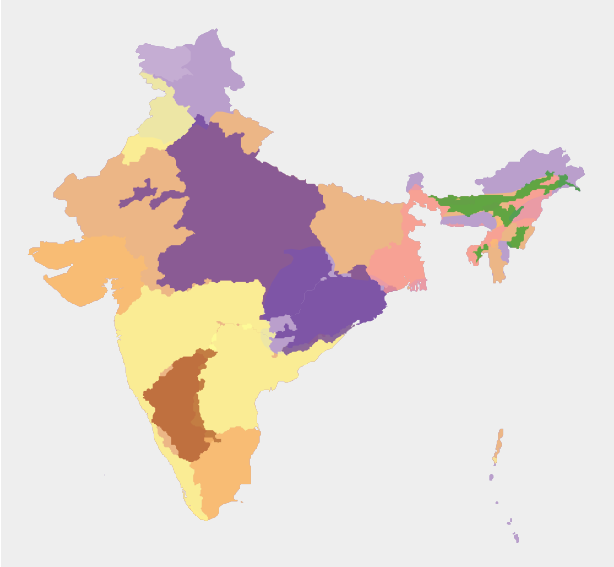

Figure 472: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1963-1976.

Table 167: List of ethnic groups in India during 1963-1976.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 815	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 847	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 151	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	81 112	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Kashmiri Muslims	39 964	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 400	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based
	Bodo	1576	Regionally based

From 1977 until 2021

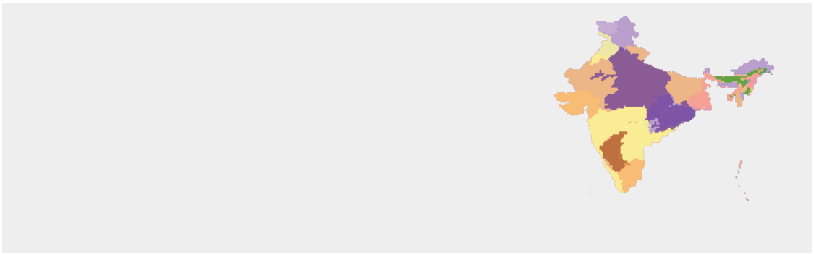

Figure 473: Map of ethnic groups in India during 1977-2021.

Table 168: List of ethnic groups in India during 1977-2021.

	Group name	Area in km^2	Type
	Scheduled Tribes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Scheduled Castes	3 152 041	Statewide
	Other Muslims	2 494 815	Regionally based
	Hindi (Non SC/ST OBCs)	689 733	Regionally based
	Marathi (non-SC/ST)	348 397	Regionally based
	Telugu (Non SC/ST/OBCs)	298 718	Regionally based
	Gujarati (non-SC/ST)	185 847	Regionally based
	Oriya (non-SC/ST)	175 619	Regionally based
	Kannada (non-SC/ST)	164 513	Regionally based
	Tamil (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	145 011	Regionally based
	Bengali (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	142 151	Regionally based
	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	81 112	Regionally based
	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	60 988	Regionally based
	Malyalam (non-SC/ST)	47 874	Regionally based
	Kashmiri Muslims	39 964	Regionally based
	Naga	18 552	Regionally based
	Mizo	16 400	Regionally based
	Manipuri	7565	Regionally based
	Indigenous Tripuri	2941	Regionally based
	Bodo	1576	Regionally based
	Other Backward Classes/Castes	0	Dispersed

Conflicts in India

Starting on 1948-04-30

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	CPI		1948-04-30			
Government of India	CPI-ML		1969-05-26			
Government of India	PWG		1987-07-28			
Government of India	MCC		1992-02-11			
Government of India	CPI-ML-J		1998-10-23			
Government of India	CPI-Maoist	Scheduled Tribes	2004-11-19	No	Yes	No
Government of India	CPI-Maoist	Other Backward Classes/Castes	2004-11-19	No	Yes	No
Government of India	CPI-Maoist	Scheduled Castes	2004-11-19	No	Yes	No

Starting on 1948-09-12

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of Hyderabad	Government of India		1948-09-12			

Starting on 1948-12-30

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	Government of Pakistan		1948-12-30			

Starting on 1955-07-19

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	NNC	Naga	1955-07-19	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	NSCN-IM	Naga	1982-08-23	Explicit	Yes	Yes

Starting on 1959-08-30

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of China	Government of India		1959-08-30			

Starting on 1966-08-31

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	MNF	Mizo	1966-08-31	Explicit	Yes	Yes

Starting on 1979-04-25

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	PLA	Manipuri	1979-04-25	Explicit	Yes	Yes
Government of India	PREPAK	Manipuri	1980-07-22	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	KCP	Manipuri	1985-11-11	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	UNLF	Manipuri	1993-08-28	Explicit	Yes	Yes

Starting on 1979-07-08

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	TNV	Indigenous Tripuri	1979-07-08	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	ATTF	Indigenous Tripuri	1992-10-03	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	NLFT	Indigenous Tripuri	1992-10-10	Explicit	Yes	Yes
Government of India	NLFT-B	Indigenous Tripuri	2003-11-21	Explicit	Yes	

Starting on 1981-09-19

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	Sikh insurgents	Punjabi-Sikhs (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	1981-09-19	Explicit	Yes	Yes

Starting on 1983-12-30

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	ULFA	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	1983-12-30	Explicit	Yes	Yes

Starting on 1984-02-05

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	Kashmir insurgents	Kashmiri Muslims	1984-02-05	Explicit	Yes	No

Starting on 1989-02-15

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	ABSU	Bodo	1989-02-15	Explicit	Yes	Yes
Government of India	NDFB	Bodo	1992-10-07	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	NDFB - RD	Bodo	2009-01-02	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of India	NDFB-S	Bodo	2013-01-13	Explicit	Yes	No

Starting on 2000-06-19

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	PULF		2000-06-19			

Starting on 2010-06-26

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	GNLA	Scheduled Tribes	2010-06-26	Explicit	Yes	No

Starting on 2015-04-18

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of India	UNLFW	Naga	2015-04-18	Explicit		
Government of India	UNLFW	Manipuri	2015-04-18	Explicit		
Government of India	UNLFW	Bodo	2015-04-18	Explicit		
Government of India	UNLFW	Assamese (non-SC/ST/OBCs)	2015-04-18	Explicit		