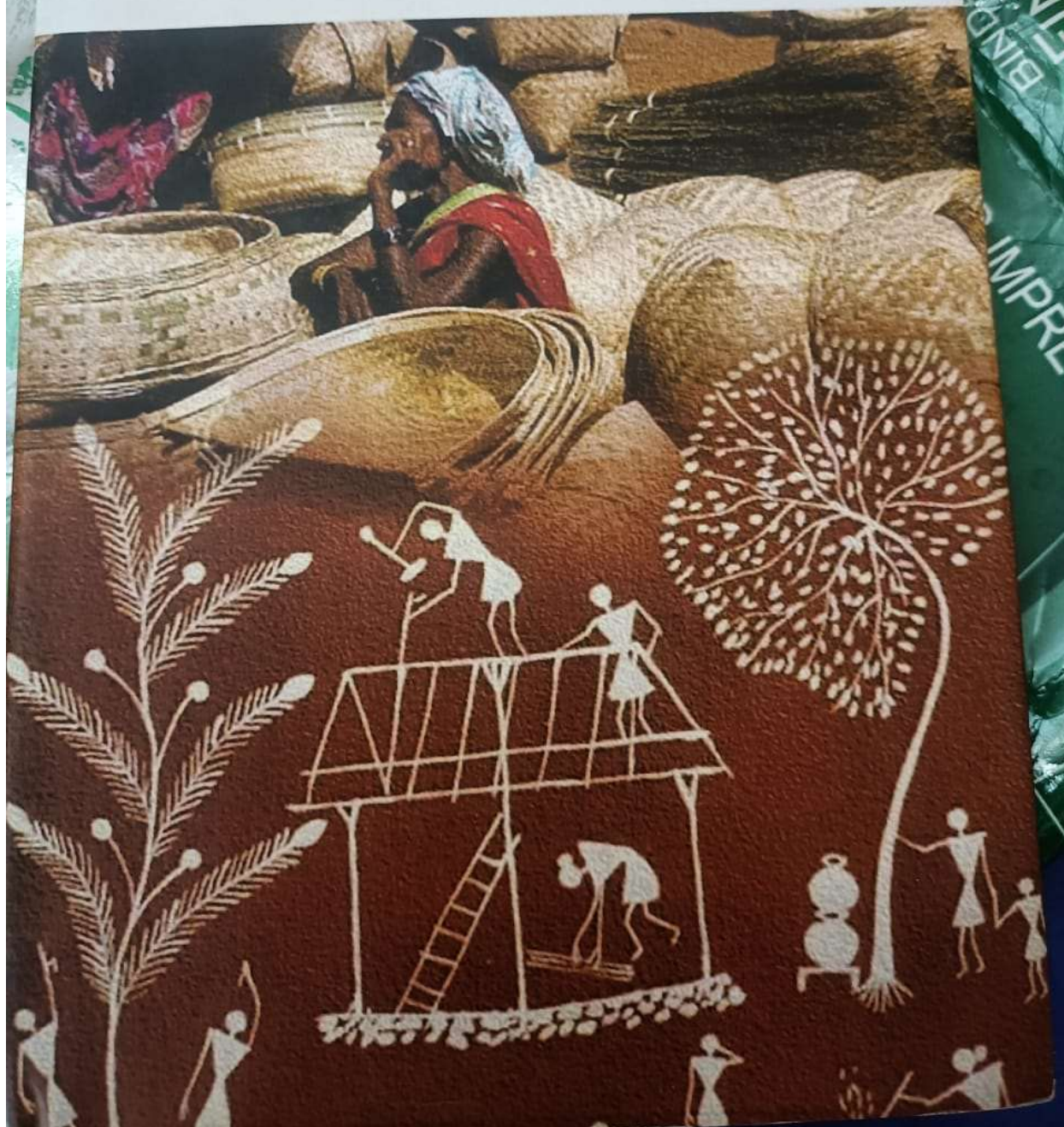


TRIBALS

THEIR PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

NITI JAIN



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CHAPTER 8

INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT POLICIES: Opportunities and Challenges for Tribal

Janardan

Introduction

Tribes are indigenous population and shows natural, traditional and distinctive way of living in any society. Their socio-cultural living style is closely connected to the evolution of own governing institutions, traditional way of managing the natural resources. They acquire a substantive content of the right to socio-economic development, as well as the right to the preservation of their socio-cultural distinctiveness, which are getting threaten by urbanization and development activities (Prakash 2007:6).

Tribal Population and their Demographic Status

While India, with the population of around 1.2 billion people has the credit to be known as the largest and diverse democracy of the world, it has around 645 district tribes, according to the list of schedule tribes recognized by the constitution of the Indian republic. Tribal population comprises around 8.6 percent (104.28 Million) of Indian population (Indian Census 2011), which has grown from 6.9 percent (30.1 million) of total population of 1967 (see Table 1). Tribal region in India covers around 15 percent of Indian Territory.