

## **Grass Root Activism and Tribal Apathy: A Study on the Oraons**

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**ABSTRACT** Contemporary social scientists often consider grass root activism as one of the viable solution of the relative backwardness of particular segments of the society. The state policy of democratic decentralization was a radical one in the sense that it aimed at increase in the grass root activism through the empowerment of the common people, not excluding the tribals. But it is a common experience that the tribals prefer to maintain some distance from the non-tribals and their simplicity, poverty and lack of social consciousness have reduced them to a state of indifference in most of the cases. This paper attempts to throw some light on the level of participation of the Oraons of Nadia District (West Bengal, India) in politics and in various mass programmes implemented by the Government.