



# Workers and Margins

Grasping Erasures  
and Opportunities

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*Edited by*  
Nimruji Jammulamadaka

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# Marginality and Its Contestations: A Case of Mining Affected in Goa

*Rahul Tripathi*

## INTRODUCTION

The complexity of the real world often belies academic assumptions of marginality. Within discourses of empowerment and development, the constituents and inhabitants of the margins are often implicitly assumed to be a stable, coherent well-knit group with common concerns and interests. Even though grassroots experiences have more often than not suggested to the contrary, policy driven analysis and prescriptions tend to adopt a homogenous concept of the margin's inhabitants, and the interests and concerns of the marginalized. The present chapter is yet another attempt to challenge this bias with policy driven understandings of margins.

It presents a case study of mining in a village in Goa. This issue of mining in Goa in the recent years has thrown open a lot of questions and propositions bordering on the themes of marginality, contestation and development, particularly among the tribal and the local populations. At one level it borders on the very nature of mining induced developmental process which is premised on extraction, transport and export.

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R. Tripathi (✉)

Department of Political Science, Goa University, Taleigao, India

e-mail: [rmt@unigoa.ac.in](mailto:rmt@unigoa.ac.in)

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