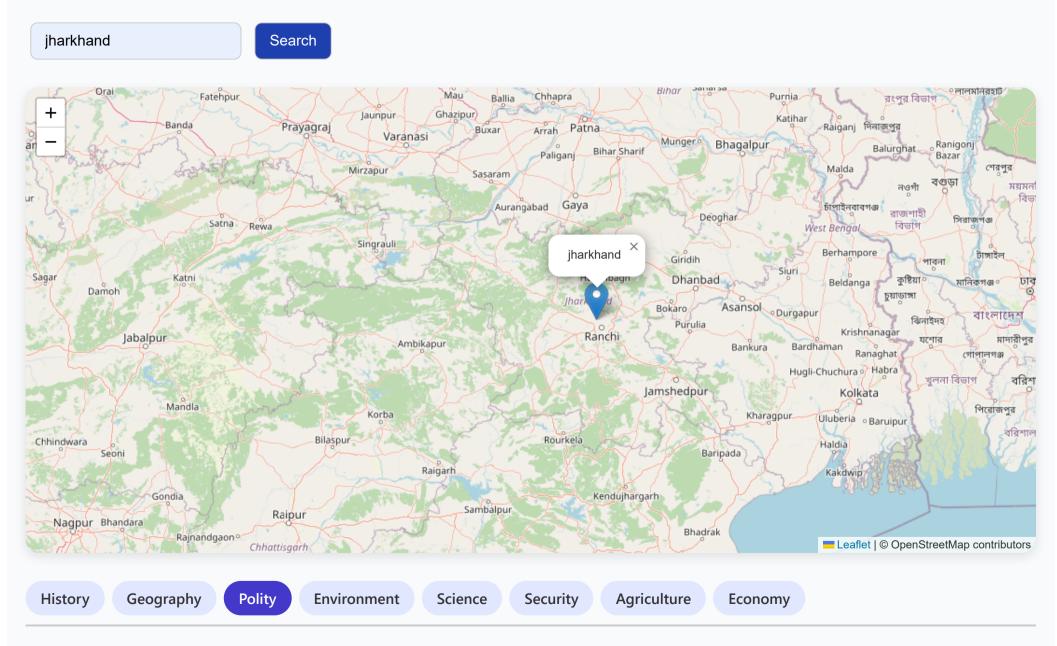
UPSC Explorer



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Polity

Jharkhand's political and governance features are complex and have evolved significantly since its formation. For UPSC preparation, focus on key events, constitutional provisions, and significant challenges. Here's a structured approach:

I. Formation and Constitutional Basis:

- Date of Formation: November 15, 2000. This is crucial to remember.
- Carving out from Bihar: Jharkhand was carved out of the state of Bihar through the Bihar Reorganisation Act, 2000. This Act is a key piece of legislation to understand. It involved redrawing boundaries, allocation of resources, and addressing the rights of residents. Be prepared to discuss the rationale behind the bifurcation addressing regional disparities, promoting tribal interests etc.
- **Constitutional Provisions:** The process followed the provisions of Article 3 of the Indian Constitution, which deals with the formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries, or names of existing states.

II. Governance Structure:

- **Governor:** The head of the state, appointed by the President of India. Their role, powers, and relationship with the elected government are important aspects to understand.
- **Legislative Assembly:** A unicameral legislature with a certain number of seats (check the current number). Understand the composition, election process, and the role of the legislative assembly in policymaking.
- **Council of Ministers:** The executive branch headed by the Chief Minister, who is the leader of the majority party or coalition in the Legislative Assembly. The Council of Ministers is responsible to the Assembly.

- **High Court:** Jharkhand has its own High Court located in Ranchi. Understanding its jurisdiction and its role in upholding the rule of law is important.
- Local Governance: Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) at the village, block, and district levels and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are crucial for grassroots governance. Understand their functioning, challenges, and reforms implemented.

III. Key Political Features & Challenges:

- **Dominance of Tribal Politics:** A significant portion of Jharkhand's population comprises Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Scheduled Castes (SCs). Understand the role of tribal parties and their influence on state politics. The impact of various tribal movements on state politics should also be studied.
- Resource-Rich but Developmentally Backward: Jharkhand is rich in mineral resources, but this wealth hasn't translated into widespread development. Examine the issues of displacement, environmental degradation, and lack of equitable distribution of resources. This often links to the Naxalite movement.
- **Naxalism:** Jharkhand has been significantly affected by Naxalite insurgency. Understand the causes, consequences, and government's strategies to combat it. This is a crucial topic for UPSC.
- Inter-state Disputes: Potential border disputes or resource-sharing issues with neighbouring states should be mentioned.
- **Political Instability:** Jharkhand has seen periods of political instability with frequent changes in government. Analyze the factors contributing to this.
- Caste and Religion: The interplay of caste and religious dynamics in the state's politics is also important.

IV. Important Acts and Policies:

- Bihar Reorganisation Act, 2000: Already mentioned above, it's fundamental.
- Panchayati Raj and Municipal Acts: Legislation governing local self-governance.
- Land Reforms: Policies related to land ownership and distribution, particularly concerning tribal lands.
- Forest Rights Act: Implementation and challenges associated with it.
- Various policies related to mineral resource management.
- V. Preparation Strategy for UPSC:
- Focus on recent developments: Pay attention to current affairs related to Jharkhand's politics, governance, and socio-economic issues.
- Use standard textbooks: Refer to standard textbooks on Indian Polity and Indian Geography.
- Analyze government reports and policy documents: Study reports of the Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog), government websites, and other relevant documents.
- Newspaper articles and magazines: Regularly read newspapers and magazines for updates on Jharkhand's political and governance issues.

By systematically studying these points and connecting them with the broader context of Indian politics and governance, you can effectively prepare for UPSC questions related to Jharkhand. Remember to use relevant case studies and examples to illustrate your points.

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