

Evolving State Capitalism: The Indian Coal Industry

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Abstract

The coal industry has always been a site of federal contestation in India. After independence, the coal became essential for the realization of differing industrial visions of State and Central governments. Nationalization of the industry clearly tipped the balance in favour of the Central government. What used to be a very public and complicated political negotiation between the Central and State governments, eventually became an internal tug of war for the resources and redistributive potential of Coal India. But despite this politicization, Coal India has maintained consistent production growth, demonstrating the resilience and adaptability of state owned enterprises.