

CURRENT NATIONAL INTERNATIONAL ISSUES 2023

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reviews security situation in Rajouri and Poonch districts of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Union Minister Kiren Rijju says, Centre taking all necessary steps to restore peace in Manipur; NEET exam in the state postponed.
- Akash Sangwan and Nishant Dev enter pre-quarterfinals of Men's World Boxing Championships in Tashkent.
- Law and order situation improves in Manipur with Army and Paramilitary's efforts to restore normalcy; Governor Anusuiya Uikey urges people to maintain peace and communal harmony.
- Prime Minister Modi congratulates King Charles III and Queen Camilla on their coronation; Says India-UK relationship will be strengthened further.
- In Weightlifting, India's Bindyarani Devi clinches silver medal in women's 55kg category at Asian Weightlifting Championships in South Korea
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asserts India has zero probability of going into recession
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approves postings of women officers of Territorial Army along Line of Control
- Cyclonic circulation developing since yesterday lay over southeast Bay of Bengal and South Andaman Sea; Fishermen advised not to venture into sea.
- Indian weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga wins silver in the Asian Championships at Jinju, Korea.
- In Boxing, Mohammed Hussamuddin enters quarterfinals of World Boxing Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Kurmi's push for ST Status

The Kurmi Community has called off the agitation in Bengal, asking for the inclusion in the ST (Scheduled Tribe) Status from Other Backward Class (OBC).



They also want their Kurmali language to be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Kurmi Background

Kurmis were not included among the communities classified as STs in the 1931 Census and were excluded from the ST list in 1950.

In 2004, the Jharkhand government recommended the community be added to the ST list rather than be categorized as OBCs.

Following the recommendation, the matter went to the Tribal Research Institute (TRI), which held that Kurmis are a sub-caste of Kunbis and not tribals. Based on this, the Centre rejected the demand of Kurmis to be considered as ST.

According to the Tribal Development Department of the state government, the state's tribal population is almost 53 lakhs as per Census 2011, or about 5.8% of the state's total population.

Process of Inclusion under ST?

The process for including a community in the list of ST follows a set of modalities established in 1999.

The respective State or Union Territory government must initiate the proposal for inclusion, which then goes to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry and subsequently to the Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI).

If the ORGI approves the inclusion, the proposal is then sent to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, and if they concur, the proposal is forwarded to the Cabinet for amendment to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

About Kurmis



GROUP OF WOMEN IN HINDUSTANI DRESS.

Kurmis are a landowning farming community whose status varies from place to place. Kurmis are referred to as “progressive farmers” who “avail of maximum benefits of all the development schemes available in the area and region.

Kurmis are distributed across several states — Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Goa, and Karnataka.

Caste Status:

In most states, Kurmis belong to the OBC in both the central and state lists for reservations.

In Gujarat, Patels, who are linked to Kurmis, are in the general category, and have been demanding OBC status.

In West Bengal, Odisha, and Jharkhand — where Kurmi is written as 'Kudmi' — Kurmis want to be included among Scheduled Tribes.

Kurmali Language:

Kurmali language is a language spoken by the Kurmi community, primarily in the Indian states of Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha.

The Kurmali language is a member of the Indo-Aryan language family and belongs to the Bihari language family. It shares some similarities with Maithili and Magahi. It has its own script called "Kurmi Kudali" which is a modified version of the Devanagari script.



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