

Inclusion of ST community

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Why is in news? Narikoravan, Kurivikkaran communities to join ST list

- Addressing a **long-pending demand of several deprived communities**, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a proposal of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to **add 12 communities to the Scheduled Tribes (ST)** list
- They include the nomadic Narikuravan and Kuruvikaran in Tamil Nadu and tribes from Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.
- The Union Cabinet approved the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2022, which seeks to make certain amendments to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, so as to modify the list of STs of Tamil Nadu.
- Once the Bill becomes an Act, members of these communities would be **able to derive benefits meant for the STs under government schemes**.
- Other communities that will get ST status include the **Gond along with their five sub-castes** in Bhadohi (earlier Sant Ravidas Nagar) district of UP, **Betta-Kuruba community** as a synonym of Kadu Kuruba in Karnataka, and **Binjhia** in Chhattisgarh, the **Hattee community** of the Trans-Giri area in Sirmour district of Himachal Pradesh, will be included in the state's ST list.
- Article 46 of the Constitution provides that the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the society and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

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