Madhesis: Faith in democracy

Why in news?

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Nepal’s Madhesis are seeking both grassroots democracy and state restructuring

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What are the issues with Madhesis?

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- A strong political movement seeking enlarged participation of the Terai in Nepal’s politics and policymaking emerged in 2007.
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- The Tharus, the largest group of original settlers of the terai region and do not like to get called as Madhesis.
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- The Madhes has historically been part of the larger Mithila region and are slightly lesser than tharus population.
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- There is a struggle for ethnicity, Identity and political sturdiness by the Madhesis
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- Most of the Madhesis lives in Nepal Bordering Uttar Pradesh.
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- On basis of this issue Nepal constitution as been amended many number of times.
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What are the demands of the Madhesis?

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- Federalisation is a desperate demand for recognition and inclusion.
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- The Madhesis are expecting to meet their demands in a democratic way.
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- They demand for opportunities in the government, the bureaucracy and the security forces.
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- Few Madhesis parties, demand for amendments to be made to the Constitution before the Lok Sabha polls.
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What are the hardships to attain the demands?

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- The Community party had steadfastly opposed any change to the Constitution finalised in 2015.
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- Specifically, amendments that would allow a redrawing of the provinces, as demanded by the plains-dwellers, the Madhesis.
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- Many Madhesi parties are planned for boycotting the Lok Sabha polls.
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What can be done?

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- To meet their demands the Madhesis should contest in elections.
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- This is why two other Madhesi forces the Federal Socialist Forum and the Madhesi Janadhikar Forum Loktantrik decided to participate in the elections.
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- Madhesi faith in democracy must be secured with the promised amendments.
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- India needs to help in safe guarding the Madhesis democratic interest.
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Source: The Hindu

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