

Moran community

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Why in news?

The Moran community in Assam launched an indefinite economic blockade in Tinsukia district, demanding for Scheduled Tribe status.

- The Moran community is one of the *aboriginal tribes of Assam*.
- They are of *Tibeto-Burman origin*.
- **History** In the 13th century, they lived in the south eastern corner of the Brahmaputra valley occupying territories between the Disang and Dihing rivers.
- They had their *own independent chiefdom* before the advent of the Ahoms in the present day Tinsukia region.
- Due to their *close relation with the Ahoms*, the Morans seem to have adopted many of the Ahom rites and rituals.
- **Distribution** They are mainly concentrated in the <u>districts of Upper</u>

 <u>Assam and adjoining districts of Arunachal Pradesh</u>.
- Religion The community adopted <u>Vaishnavism</u>, following the <u>Moamoria Sect of Neo-Vaishnavism</u>, which was introduced to them in the 17th century by Aniruddha deva, a disciple of Sankardeva.
- Language They speak <u>Assamese language</u>, used to speak Moran language, which was closely related to the Dimasa language.
- Festival The primary festival celebrated by the Moran community is Bihu, particularly the <u>Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu</u>, a major cultural event in Assam.
- They also observe <u>Magh Bihu, Raati Bihu and Kati Bihu.</u>
- **Demands of Moran Community** Recognition as a Scheduled Tribe status and Constitutional elevation for their Moran Autonomous Council.

In March 2025, the Assam government announced its decision to issue **Permanent Residence Certificates (PRCs)** to members of

the Moran community living in Arunachal Pradesh.

• Others demanded for ST status - Along with Moran, Tea tribes or Adivasi, Motok, Tai Ahom, Chutia, and Koch-Rajbongshi are agitating for Scheduled Tribe status.

References

- 1. Indian Express | Moran Community
- 2. Times of India | Moran Community seeks ST status

