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 ***districts of Upper Assam and adjoining districts of Arunachal Pradesh***.
- **Religion -** The community adopted ***Vaishnavism,*** following the ***Moamoria Sect of Neo-Vaishnavism***, which was introduced to them in the 17th century by Aniruddha deva, a disciple of Sankardeva.
- **Language -** They speak ***Assamese language***, 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 ***Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu***, a major cultural event in Assam.
- They also observe *Magh Bihu, Raati Bihu and Kati Bihu.*
- **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

