

Pardhi Community

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Pardhi Community



Pardhi Community Latest News

Forest rights activists and lawyers across the country expressed their concern over the recent MP government order calling for extensive search and surveillance of nomadic tribes, including the Pardhi community, which is classified as a scheduled tribe.

About Pardhi Community

- Pardhis are a **nomadic community that, since** the time of the **Mughal emperors**, have been **hired to help in shikar (hunting)**, whether it was for sport for the British or for the royal kitchens of the 'zamindars' (landowners).
- They **reside mainly in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh**, and also in small pockets of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.
- The word pardhi comes from paradh, which means hunter in the Marathi language.
- **In 1871**, the Pardhis were among the tribes **notified as "hereditary and habitual criminals" under** the colonial-era **Criminal Tribes Act**.

- **After independence**, the Indian government “**denotified**” **these communities** in 1952.
- **Occupation**: Though the **major occupation** of the Pardhi tribes is **hunting and gathering**, some have **taken up diverse occupations like cultivation** and some other occupations following the traditions of most of the tribes of the country.
- **Language**:
 - The main language of the Pardhi tribes is their **local dialect**, which is of the **same name**.
 - **Many of them** also **speak a dialect of the Gujarati** language.
 - In the northern parts of the country, they speak a combination of Hindi and Marwari.
- **Beliefs**:
 - Though they are **officially Hindu**, **most of the Pardhi practice ethnic religions**.
 - They are firm believers in the **spirit world** and its influence on the **physical world**.

Pardhi Community FAQs

Q1. What is the origin of Pardhi?

Ans. History indicates the origin of Pardhis as being Rajasthan and Gujarat region.

Q2. Pardhi Community resides in which states?

Ans. They reside mainly in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, and also in small pockets of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

Q3. What is the religion of Pardhi Community?

Ans. Though they are officially Hindu, most of the Pardhi practice ethnic religions.

Source: NIE

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