



Uttarakhand Set to Exempt Tribals from UCC

Why in News?

The proposed **Uttarakhand Uniform Civil Code** to be introduced in the state assembly is set to **exempt the state's tribal population fully from its provisions.**

Key Points

- Tribals constitute about **2.9% of Uttarakhand's population with the Jaunsari, Bhotiyas, Tharu, Raji and Buksa** among the prominent ones.
 - **Polyandry and polygamy** are also prevalent customs among a few tribes in the hill state.
- The Uttarakhand UCC committee had also held talks with these tribal communities on a uniform code.
 - The **younger tribal population** had also given **feedback that** while polyandry/polygamy and other practices were in vogue in earlier generations, they are hardly in practice now and hence the **reform was welcomed.**
 - However, **tribal and ethnic communities** across states, especially the northeast, have **openly expressed their opposition** to the imposition of any civil **code that could impact their customs and age-old ways of life.**
- **Halala, Iddat and Khula** options on **divorce and remarriage for Muslims** will be **illegal under the new code** which will call for divorce and remarriage only by way of legal proceedings in courts of law.
- The state's code will mandate **compulsory registration of live-in relationships and seek full succession rights for children born out of such unions.**

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UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

All sections of the society irrespective of their religion shall be treated equally according to a National Civil Code - the Uniform Civil Code.

THEY COVER AREAS LIKE



Marriage



Divorce



Maintenance



Inheritance



Adoption

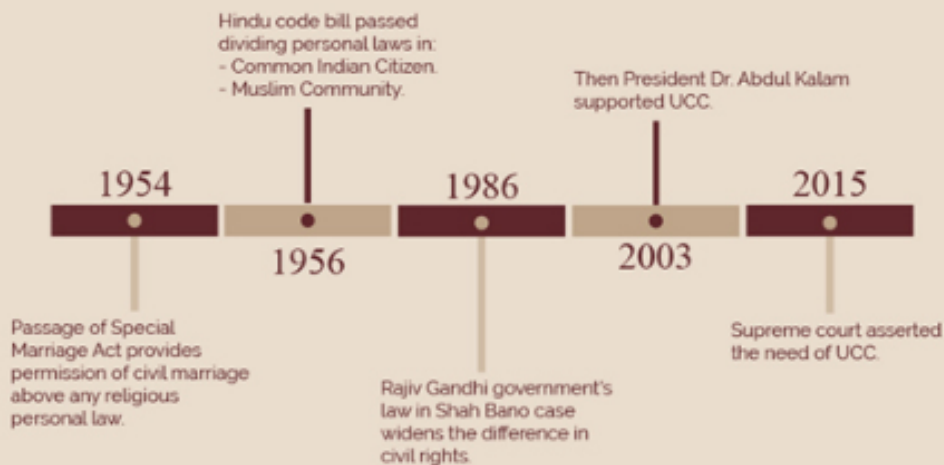


Succession of Property

It is based on the premise that there is necessarily no connection between religion and personal law in a civilized society.

"UCC refers to a common set of laws governing civil rights of every citizen."
Article 44 of Directive Principles sets duty of state for implementing UCC.

TIMELINE



The dialogue for UCC was started by the Law Commission in the year 2016

Tribes of Uttarakhand

- Tribes of Uttarakhand **mainly comprise five major groups** namely Jaunsari tribe, Tharu tribe, Raji tribe, Buksa tribe, and Bhutia.
- The main concentration of the tribal population is in rural areas.
 - As per records, **around 94.50% of the total tribal population resides in rural areas** and the remaining percentage of the tribal population lives in urban centres.
- In terms of population, the **Tharu tribe is the largest tribal group** in the state.
- Every district of Uttarakhand has more or less a moderate percentage of the tribal population.
- These **tribes of Uttarakhand have been scheduled in the Constitution of India.**

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