



Transgender Welfare Board in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, the **Uttarakhand Cabinet cleared** a proposal for the formation of the [State Transgender Persons Welfare Board](#).

- The State will bring a **policy to provide equal opportunity in employment to transgender persons**.

Key Points

- **Survey and Issuance of Identity Cards:**
 - A **survey will be conducted** across Uttarakhand to **identify and ascertain the number of transgender persons in the State**.
 - Following the survey, transgender individuals will be **issued identity cards to formalize their recognition**.
- **Facilitating Welfare Access:**
 - The welfare board will **ensure the transgender community's access** to existing social, educational, and health schemes.
 - It will also **develop new schemes that are sensitive and non-discriminatory** towards the community.
 - An **effective monitoring system will be established** to address grievances, with a fixed time limit for complaint resolution.
- **Formation of Uttarakhand Transgender Persons Welfare Board:**
 - **The Social Welfare Department will serve as the administrative department**, with the **Chief Minister as the head for the Transgender Persons Welfare Board**.
 - Members will include **Secretaries of Departments such as Social Welfare, Home, Finance, Personnel, Urban Development, and Panchayati Raj**, along with:
 - Five experts from the transgender community.
 - A representative from [Non-governmental Organizations \(NGOs\)](#) working for transgender rights.
 - National Context and Legal Mandate.
- **18th State to Establish Welfare Board:**
 - **Uttarakhand will become the 18th State/Union Territory** to establish a welfare board for transgender persons under [the Transgender Persons \(Protection of Rights\) Act, 2019, and Rules, 2020](#).
 - **Other states with Transgender Welfare Boards** are Rajasthan, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Kerala, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar.

Transgender

- According to [the Transgender Persons \(Protection of Rights\) Act, 2019](#) transgender means a person **whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth**.
- It includes trans-person with intersex variations, [gender-queer](#) and people having such socio-

cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aaravani and jogta.

- India's [2011 Census](#) was the **first census in its history to incorporate the number of 'trans' population** of the country. The report estimated that **4.8 million Indians identified as transgender.**

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