

Kapu agitations in Andrapradesh

Why in news?

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The farming community of Kapus in Andhra Pradesh started agitations for their inclusion in notified Backward Classes.

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What are the demands of the Kapus?

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- They constitute about 20% of the population, demanding its inclusion in notified Backward Classes.

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- The demand for quota for the Kapus has been there for more than two decades.

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- This will help them to get reservation in government jobs and educational institutions.

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What are the reasons for the agitations?

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- Present government promised quotas for the Kapus, three years on there has been no announcement on the quota.

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- An agitation in 2016 stirred violence across the states, to address the issue came up with Manjunatha commission.

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- It looked into the demands for quota by the Kapus and other communities.

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- There is no word yet from the Commission though it has been touring the State and taking representations.

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- Recent protests, it was inspired from the Gujjars and the Patels agitation.

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How political parties gains from Kapu demands?

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- The issue has been used effectively by ambitious Kapu leaders and political parties to garner votes from this numerically strong community.

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- Few parties make a political impact, riding on the sentiment that none from the community could rise to the level of Chief Minister.

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- They raise the caste divide among the people for their secure vote bank.

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Source: The Hindu

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