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Assam tribals miffed at move for ST to 6 communities



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The move to accord ST status for six communities hits a major hurdle in the face of a statewide agitation by the tribal bodies.

Speaking to Assamtimes, the All Assam Tribal Sangha (AATS) leaders here say they will oppose the move tooth and nail apprehending that it could jeopardise their existing rights they have been enjoying till today.

“Its a gameplane in the time of panchayat polls which will force us to come out to the streets,” they say.

On Thursday addressing the media people, the Association general secretary

Aditya Khakhlari said they would not sit idle if the government further proceeds with this move which can hit their interest.

The leaders of the All Assam Tribal Youth League, Federation of Bodo Youths, All Tiwa Students' Association, Deuri Students' Association, Karbi Students' Association and the Dimasa Students' Union also pledged to oppose the move saying they will never let the government to do so.

They launched a scathing attack on Union home minister Shivraj Patil for saying that the Assam tribals have lost their characteristics.

They added the Beltola episode is a conspiracy of Delhi and Dispur.

“AASU, AGP, BJP too are trying to appease the tea tribes demanding ST status but they hardly think of what wait the indigenous people of Asom,” they rued.



[editor](#)

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