

# PAHARIS ON ST LIST: GUJJARS, BAKERWALS PLAN BOYCOTT

Relevant for: Developmental Issues | Topic: Rights & Welfare of STs, SCs, and OBCs - Schemes & their Performance, Mechanisms, Laws Institutions and Bodies

The protest campaign of Gujjars and Bakerwals against the Centre's decision to include Paharis on the Schedule Tribe list is gaining momentum in J&K, with these communities planning to boycott the visit of Union Tribal Minister Arjun Munda this month. "A boycott call was announced today [Wednesday] by the All J&K Gujjar Bakerwal Co-ordination Committee (AJKGBCC), a body of ST communities, to register their protest against grant of ST status to Pahari-speaking people who belong to upper castes of society," Anwar Chowdhary, convener of the committee, said in Jammu. Mr. Munda is likely to visit Udhampur on November 17 and 18.

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