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Daily news summary**Gorkha Identity Issue Tripartite Committee Home Ministry**

UPSC Civil Services • 23 August 2026 • Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- Ministry of Home Affairs formed a dedicated committee to draft a political solution for the Gorkha demand in West Bengal.

BACKGROUND OF THE ISSUE

- Long-standing demand for statehood or special administrative autonomy for the Darjeeling hills and adjoining areas of West Bengal.
- Governed previously via regional autonomous bodies under **Article 244**/state acts such as the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA).

CURRENT INSTITUTIONAL STEP

- Union Home Minister chaired a tripartite meeting between the Centre, West Bengal state representatives, and Gorkha leadership.
- A high-level committee was established to define modalities for a constitutional and administrative solution.

KEY TERMS

- **Tripartite Talks:** Negotiations involving three distinct parties: Central Government, State Government, and local political stakeholders.

PAPERS

GS2, GS3

PRELIMS FACTS

- Autonomous hill councils in West Bengal, such as the GTA, derive authority from state legislation rather than the **Sixth Schedule**.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Examine the effectiveness of autonomous regional councils in fulfilling sub-national political aspirations.

KEY DATA

- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Home Affairs - Handles domestic political settlements, internal security, and autonomous hill councils.

[Official source](#)

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