

## Fact file on Gujjar protests in Rajasthan

The following is a fact file on the protests by Rajasthan's Gujjar community seeking Scheduled Tribe status:

- \* Population: Around 10 percent of state's 56.47 million
- \* De-notified as a non-criminal tribe in 1951
- \* Fail to get ST status in 1954, Meenas do
- \* In late 1950s, Gujjars start to struggle for ST status
- \* Gujjars figure among backward castes in 1981 census
- \* In 1984, Rajasthan chief minister Shivcharan Mathur rejects Gujjar demand for ST status
- \* Gujjars get listed as other backward caste (OBC) in 1993
- \* Jats get OBC status in 1999
- \* In 2003, Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje promises Gujjars ST during assembly election campaign
- \* Many die Gujjar protests in May-June 2007
- \* Supreme Court terms Gujjar violence a 'national shame'
- \* Justice Jasraj Chopra Committee set up in June 2007 to study Gujjar demand
- \* Justice Chopra submits report in December 2007, rejects ST demand but recommends special package for Gujjars
- \* May 17, 2008: A high-powered committee headed by Ramdas Agarwal recommends Rs.2.82 billion package for Gujjar areas
- \* May 23: Police fire at Gujjars in Bharatpur, many killed
- \* May 26: Raje writes to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, recommending 4-6 percent quota for Gujjars

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