



Muria Tribe

Why in News?

According to the reports, **Muria tribes** fled Dandakaranya region in Chhattisgarh during the conflict between [left wing extremists](#) and State-sponsored [Salwa Judum](#), and settled in the reserve forests of Andhra Pradesh.

- However, their access to primary education, safe drinking water, and social welfare benefits remains a dream, and now, they are at risk of displacement.

Key Points

- The settlement lies within '**India's Red Corridor**' on the Andhra Pradesh-Chhattisgarh border hit by [Naxalism](#), and stands as an oasis within a reserved forest, protected by stringent laws prohibiting settlement and deforestation.
 - They fled from the districts of Sukma, Dantewada, and Bijapur in Dandakaranya region of Chhattisgarh, settled in the erstwhile East and West Godavari districts.
- The Muria settlements are known as habitations of **Internally Displaced People (IDPs)**, whose population is around **6,600 in AP**, and the Murias here are referred to as '**Gutti Koyas**' by the native tribes.
- According to a survey done by a group of [Non-governmental Organizations \(NGOs\)](#), there are 1,621 Muria households in the State.

Salwa Judum

- It is a **group of tribal persons** mobilized for resistance against outlawed armed **naxalites**. The group was reportedly backed by government machinery in Chhattisgarh.
- In **2011, Supreme Court of India** ruled against arming civilians in this manner banned Salwa-Judum and **directed Chhattisgarh government to disband any militia force** founded to combat Maoist guerrillas.

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- The Muria are an **indigenous Adivasi**, scheduled tribe **Dravidian community** of the **Bastar district** of Chhattisgarh, India. They are part of the **Gondi people**.
- They speak **Koya**, which is a Dravidian language.
- They have progressive perspective towards marriage and life as a whole. The biggest example being the **Ghotul (a commune or dormitory)**, which is meant to create an environment for Muria youth to understand their sexuality.

Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

- IDPs are persons or **groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee** or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order **to avoid the effects of armed conflict**, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border.

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