



Mithila Cultural Council

Why in News?

The **Mithila Cultural Council (Mithila Sanskriti Parishad)**, Jamshedpur, became the first Jharkhand-based institution to be affiliated with the [Sahitya Akademi](#) under the **Maithili Advisory Board**.

- The Council is **expected to promote, preserve**, and enrich the Maithili language and literature in the region by working in tandem with national literary efforts.
- The Sahitya Akademi also approved the translation of 22 books from Punjabi, Odia, Tamil, English, and Hindi into Maithili, as per the Advisory Board's recommendations.

Maithili Advisory Board

- The Maithili Advisory Board of the Sahitya Akademi is a dedicated panel that oversees and **promotes Maithili literature** as part of the Akademi's efforts to support major Indian languages.
 - The **Sahitya Akademi** is **India's National Academy of Letters**, supporting **24 recognized languages**, each with its advisory board.
- The board includes distinguished Maithili authors, critics, and scholars, who recommend books for publication, organize seminars, and guide literary activities in Maithili.
- The board operates on a **term basis, usually for five years**, and its members are recognized for their significant contributions to the Maithili literary landscape.
- It helps in the **nomination for the [Sahitya Akademi Awards](#)** in Maithili and helps set linguistic and literary priorities.

Maithili Language

- Maithili is a language spoken in Bihar belonging to the **eastern sub-group** of the **Indo-Aryan branch**. Bhojpuri and Magadhi are closely related to the language.
- The language is claimed to have developed from the **Magadhan Prakrit**.
 - It was the literary language of all of eastern India during the medieval period.
- It was popularised in the 14th century by poet Vidyapati and solidified the importance of the language in literature.
- Maithili language has been accorded **Constitutional status in 2003** and it became one of the 22 languages mentioned in the **[8th Schedule of the Constitution](#)**.