



# Bihar's New Domicile Rule Excludes Non-Residents from Women's Quota

## Why in News?

The Bihar government **approved** the **domicile rule for the existing 35% reservation for women in all state government jobs**, reversing Bihar's earlier policy of not requiring domicile status for government employment.

## Key Points

### ▪ About the New Rules:

- With the new rule in place, **women who are not Bihar residents can no longer access** the 35% quota in government jobs.
- **Eligibility Criteria for Domicile in Bihar:**
  - Have lived in the state for at least three years,
  - Own land or a house in the state, or
  - In the case of women, be married to a Bihar resident.
- While a **voter ID** card is desirable, it is **not mandatory for establishing domicile status**.

### ▪ Employment Landscape in Bihar:

- Bihar has a relatively small state government workforce, with less than 1.57% of its population employed in the public sector.
- **As of June 2025:**
  - The state employed 36,000 women in the police force.
  - Over 2.5 lakh women teachers have been recruited since 2007.
- **Structural Employment Issues in Bihar:**
  - According to **NITI Aayog**'s March 2025 report, Bihar's economy remains predominantly agrarian, with:
    - 49.6% of the workforce in agriculture,
    - 5.7% in manufacturing (one of the lowest in India),
    - 26% in services, and
    - 18.4% in construction.
- The demand for domicile-based reservation arises from these economic and employment challenges.

### ▪ Bihar Youth Commission:

- The Cabinet also approved the **Bihar Youth Commission** to address **youth employment and empowerment**.
- The Commission will consist of one Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons, and seven Members, all aged 45 or below.
- **Functions:**
  - The Commission will advise the government on improving education, employment, and skill development for youth.
  - It will coordinate with departments to:
    - Promote private sector jobs for youth,
    - Safeguard students and **migrant workers**, and
    - Run de-addiction and awareness programmes.

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