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Ladakh to extend Autonomous Hill Councils to all seven districts

The Ladakh administration announced the extension of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Act to all seven districts.

Autonomous Hill Development Councils are local self-governing bodies established to ensure democratic decentralization and grassroots governance in specific hilly regions.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Ladakh administration** announced the extension of the **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Act**.
- The Act will be extended to **all seven districts** of the region.
- The administration also added **17 new tehsils**, bringing the **total to 32**.
- This initiative aims to strengthen **grassroots governance** in the **Union Territory**.
- **Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra** confirmed discussions with religious and civil society bodies.
- These discussions focused on **constitutional safeguards** for the region.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The **Sixth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution deals with the administration of tribal areas in **Assam**, **Meghalaya**, **Tripura**, and **Mizoram**.

Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) are established under the **Sixth Schedule** for self-governance in specified tribal areas.

Ladakh was constituted as a **Union Territory** on **August 5, 2019**, following the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019**.

The **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Act** governs the functioning of these councils in the region.

The primary objective of **ADCs** is to protect the distinct **culture**, identity, and **land rights** of indigenous tribal populations.

The **Fifth Schedule** of the Constitution pertains to the administration and control of **Scheduled Areas** and **Scheduled Tribes** in states other than those covered by the **Sixth Schedule**.

The **Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA)** was enacted in **1996** to extend provisions of **Part IX of the Constitution** to Scheduled Areas.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Ladakh extends Autonomous Hill Development Council Act to all seven districts for grassroots governance.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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