

# Surjapuri and Bajjika dialects

September 29, 2022

**In news**– State government of Bihar has recently asked the state education department to set up academies for the promotion of the Surjapuri and Bajjika dialects on the lines of the Hindi and Urdu academies.

## Surjapuri dialect-

- **Surjapuri is spoken mainly in Kishanganj** and other parts of Seemanchal in northeastern Bihar, including the districts of Katihar, Purnia and Araria.
- The dialect, a **mix of Bangla, Urdu, and Hindi**, is also spoken in contiguous parts of West Bengal.
- The **name Surjapuri comes from Surjapur pargana**, which no longer exists. But there is a toll plaza called Surjapur between Purnia and Kishanganj.



- Although Surjapuri has nothing specifically to do with religion, the **largest share of speakers of the language is made up of Surjapuri Muslims**, who live mainly in Kishanganj, the district that has about 70 per cent

Muslim population.

### **Bajjika dialect-**

- **Bajjika, one of five dialects spoken in Bihar, is a mix of Hindi and Maithili,** and is spoken mainly in Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, and parts of Sitamarhi, Sheohar and Samastipur.
- Bajjika is **not as well known as other dialects such as Bhojpuri and Maithili.**

### **Note:**

Eight academies or functioning organisations for Hindi, Urdu, Bhojpuri, Maithili, Angika, Magahi, Bangla, and South Indian languages already exist in Bihar, and the government's decision on Bajjika and Surjapuri takes note of the two dialects that had been left out.