

A CASE OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS IN NAGALAND AND ITS IMPACT IN THE TRADITIONAL SOCIETY OF NAGALAND

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Abstract

The study examined how the illegal immigration had its impact in the traditional society of Nagaland. Qualitative research method has been used. Study also examines how the increasing illegal immigrants in Nagaland had its impact in the demographic, economic, social change of Nagaland. With the increasing influx of the immigrants the economy of Nagaland is gradually captured by the non-locals by engaging in manual labour which serves as a pull factor. There are also findings on how the issue of the illegal immigrants had mount to proposing acts like Citizenship Amendment Bill (2016) and National Register of Citizens. The major findings in this research is that the half of the economy is managed by the-non locals, easy availability of jobs, accumulation of wealth, intermarriages between the locals and non-locals, support from the community, less safe place and debatable emerging issues. The study also had a descriptive outlook on the government initiatives of both the central and the state government and how the illegal immigration will threaten the internal security of Nagaland.

Key words: illegal immigration, emerging issues, internal security, Citizenship Amendment Bill, accumulation of wealth

INTRODUCTION

Migration can be understood as the movement of the people from one usual place of residence to a destination country. According to Shaw's (1975) conventional definition, migration is 'the relatively permanent movement of persons over a significant distance'. According to Myran Wiener, 'migrant' are the unwanted people who are not liked by the host community. On the other hand 'refugees' are the people who have been rejected by their own government or the people or who have fled due to oppression by brutal regimes. However, in the present study the term 'migrant' has been used in a manner as to include both senses.

Causes of migration in Nagaland: There is continuous migration from East Pakistan/East Bengal today which is Bangladesh. The age old tradition became illegal only after the partition of India 1947, several lakh Hindus fled from East Pakistan for India to escape communal

violence. Post 1971, migrants from Bangladesh in India can be divided into two main groups: (a) Hindu Bangladeshi's who mainly came as refugees as a result of persecution and also as economic migrants. (b) Muslim Bangladeshi's who came by economic need. Among the Muslim Bangladeshi migrants there are three categories: those who have settled in the Muslim-majority districts in the border regions; daily labourers, rickshaw pullers and farmers who cross the India Bangladesh border on a day to day basis for farming and better wages; those who have settled in Kolkata, Delhi and other Indian states. The movement of the people of Bangladesh is due to interrelated factors; economic, environmental, political and religion. There are many reasons for this like poverty, high population growth in Bangladesh. With 130.03 million persons in 2001, the country has one of the highest population density. Another reason is that Bangladesh is a major source of labour mainly of low skilled and unskilled labour. Over the years, a large number of people have voluntarily migrated for both long and short term employment. Since mostly locals in Nagaland do not go for manual labour (example-Rickshaw pullers) consequently there is easy availability of cheap labour. Also for farming works the locals employ the immigrants who are known for its hard work than the local farmers. Another reason is that after the partition of India in 1947 several lakh Hindus fled from East Pakistan for India to escape communal violence. The Assamese define Bangladeshis as 'foreigners' and 'infiltrators'. In 1965, the then chief minister of Assam claimed that over one million 'illegal Pakistani infiltrators' had entered eastern India. Again thousands of Chakmas and Hojangs fled to India following the construction of the Kaptai hydroelectric dam and the ethnic conflict in Chittagong Hill Tract during 1970's and 1980's. As 80 percent of Bangladesh's geographic area is situated in the flood plains of Ganges, Brahmaputra, Meghna and many other small rivers, which serves as a contributing push factor to the immigration. The submergence of Chors during the flood season forces many inhabitants, deliberately or out of sheer ignorance to migrate.

IMPACT ON THE TRADITIONAL SOCIETY OF NAGALAND

Nagaland shares its border with Assam in the West from where it is a source of influx of the illegal immigrants. Since 1970 when Bangladesh was created or earlier than this there is flow of illegal immigrants in states like Assam and the bordering states even though in the early 1980s states like Assam and Tripura the immigration were well documented. In Nagaland the issue of the threat of the illegal immigrants against the tribal identity had rose to attention among the Nagas lately.

The estimate done on the presence of the illegal immigrants in Nagaland vary from 100,000 to 300,000. The general secretary of National Socialist Council of Nagaland- Isak Muivah, Thuingaleng Muivah reported that there are about two lakh illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in Dimapur itself. In the year 2000 it was reported that there are about 75,000 immigrants by the Union Home Ministry. It was also estimated that there are approximately one lakh of the immigrants reported by the government of Nagaland.

The illegal immigrants enter in Nagaland via Assam with the fake documents, driving license or voting card obtained from Golaghat, Karimganj, Nagaon and Sibsagar. The immigrants mostly reside in the border between the Assam and Nagaland and in Dimapur. It is even more

difficult to identify the immigrants in Dimapur since it is a commercial centre in addition they possess fake documents hence the police could not take direct action. Therefore when the immigrants are arrested by the police in Nagaland they have their proofs of citizenship issued by the government of Assam.

The means of livelihood for a number of populations in North-East is dependent on agriculture. With the increasing influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh the share of limited possession among the locals gets reduced. The non-locals tend to acquire land from the locals, as a result of which causes isolation from the ancestral land contributing to clashes among the ethnic group. With the introduction of Inner Line Permit in the North-Eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland the problem could be governed to some certain extent. However in West Bengal the illegal immigrants have obtained lands on a large scale.

A daily wage labourer told that it is very easy for the illegal immigrants to find jobs in Nagaland since the local people aims to pursue jobs of private and public sector which are reputed rather than employed as manual labours, consequently the immigrants engages in all the menial works.

The reason which has rapidly contributed to employment of illegal immigrants is that they can employ themselves very easily for instance they can even employ in their own home by opening up corner shop which has a mere income to the immigrants family even though that can sustain the family; the local owners of agricultural field tend to employ the non-locals thinking they are more efficient and hardworking than comparing to the local labours hence the local owners provide them with land and settlement for cultivation. Manual labours and rickshaw pullers are mostly carried out by the non-local. The scarcity of the local labour in Nagaland to employ them in manual works encourages the Naga society to continue to utilise their labour compounding with providing shelter. As a result, gradually the non-locals capture the economy.

ACCUMULATION OF WEALTH: The immigrants tend to accumulate wealth in the form of wage labour while the money they earned is mostly not circulated in Nagaland but gets transacted to their place. As a result it hampers the growth of economy in Nagaland on the other immigrants prolong their progress with developments or other investments in their country.

Either legally or illegally the immigrants are able to establish business across the state. Department of Evaluation, Government of Nagaland conducted a survey covering agriculture, trading and manufacturing in the year 2006 in Dimapur, Kohima and Mokokchung on the establishments of private sector and unorganised sectors, the result of the survey was about 13,380 establishments. According to the survey the annual income of the non-Naga workforce of 45,815 was Rs 450.60 core, in which Dimapur had 32,700 persons of non-Naga workforce with an annual income of Rs 351.85 core, Kohima had 10,900 with an annual income of Rs 89.98 core and Mokokchung had 2,215 with an annual income of Rs 8.77 core. The construction sector employs the highest non-Naga workforce which employs 4,099 persons. Second largest workforce was the loading and unloading sector in bus station and railway station followed by trading and entrepreneurship sector. About 2,780 persons are employed

running pan or gumti shops and grocery or ration shops followed by which about 2,514 persons are employed in handcarts and rickshaws. The sixth highest employer of non-Naga workforce is hotel and restaurant industry that had a workforce of 2,257. Directorate of Agriculture in 2003 conducted a survey which showed that there were about 23,777 establishments of business and about 71.73 percent are under the ownership of the non-Nagas and only 28.27 percent are under the ownership of Nagas which accounts to running only 6,722 shops. In Kohima in the year 2009, the Angami Students Union decided to check the ILP (Inner Line Permit) to get the verification done of the illegal immigrants. In a same drive which were shouldered by the union in the year 2008, about 8,000 immigrants were recorded who were engaged in various professions.

FINDING JOBS: Illegal immigrants of Bangladesh only want their children to be mere literate that is how to read and write, they do not aim to acquire higher levels of education for their children and support their children to do the manual work which the locals are not ready to take up. It is very easy for one to employ as the availability of jobs tend to employ more populace which motivates people to migrate to the destination for seeking jobs. Wages and easy availability of jobs with less professionalism and skill, the immigrants easily gets jobs like rickshaw puller, plying handcart, corner shops and working in the construction sites.

Not only the immigrants require jobs of manual labour which the local mostly ignores but there is also low demand for the cost of labour. Consequently, employment for either the unskilled or semi-skilled locals had decreased. In Dimapur the immigrants owns extensive areas of market that deal in work of selling bamboo, second hand clothes and thatch. It was also found that in pursue for fieldwork, the establishment of various business bearing the names in the sign boards of the native names were surprisingly possessed by the non-Nagas.

One of the effective steps that the Ao Students Conference initiated was the introduction of the massive elimination of illegal immigrants in Mokokchung district, Nagaland. The non-locals had once controlled all the marketing activities like selling vegetables, clothes and even owning most of corner shops, grocery or ration shops, with the regulation of ASC to end the business establishment of the non-locals. Today the district marketing economy are mostly run by the locals providing more employment opportunity for the local youths and also for the local farmers to sell their own agricultural product in local market.

MARRIAGES: Marriages take place mostly with the Sumi and Miya community, apparently 'Sumias' community heave in sight and now their number varies around 80,000 to 100,000 foreboding a major threat to Nagaland demography and a possible source of future tension. Consequently these become hurdle when it comes to preventive measures for illegal immigrants by the state and central government.

In the late 1980's an examination held by a journalist at Niuland, Dimapur district introduced the word 'Sumias'. The newly community are the result of inter-marriages between the Sumi which is a community of Naga tribe and the Miyas of immigrants. However the development of the word 'Sumiya' is sensitive and arguable. It is asserted that the inter-marriage takes place as the immigrants are considered hard workers. Ato Yephthomi, a local politician also remarked

on December 4, 2002 to the media of Guwahati that the illegal immigrant after engaging in the work of paddy field for a few years, marriage occurs between the local Sumi girls and immigrants after which they name their childrens after Sumi tribe.

Mostly the immigrants are likely to marry more than one woman with the intention to increase the number of immigrants in Nagaland. Often the wives are exploited by sending them to work as a daily labour while he does not engage in any labour activity. The immigrants are in favour of marrying locals than its own people to protect them from social authority from imposing any sanction against them for residence in Nagaland. Hence the Naga Students' Federation (NSF) had taken the initiative to restrict the inter-marriage between the locals and immigrants in concern with the claim. The NSF however asserts that it is not strictly possible to restrict the marriages and deporting the immigrants have little significance as they do not permanently return to their corresponding region but they move from one state to another. Nagaland also declared that step were taken to deport the immigrants of about 20,000 between the year 1994 and 1997 even though it was found out that most of the immigrants had returned.

EMERGING ISSUES: With the increasing marriages within the two communities there is rapid increase in the population of the so called Sumiya Community which becomes an issue to brand them as a part of the citizen of Nagaland. There is an impending threat of the Naga indigenous inhabitants being outnumbered by the illegal immigrant populace.

The Citizenship Bill which was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 15, 2016 to provide citizenship to illegal immigrants in India from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan of Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Parsi and Sikh unlike the Inner Line Permit (ILP) which only give rights to the non-Nagas to travel in Nagaland.

Protests against the Citizenship (amendment) Bill were held across the North-Eastern states. In Nagaland, Naga Students' Federation (NSF) volunteers prepared a dharna at Raj Bhavan. NSF general secretary Imtiyapang Imsong stated that the citizenship bill which is to grant the citizenship to the illegal immigrants due to religious persecution provides no justification. There was also no record of any such case in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Asserting that since North- East region are heavily populated with the illegal immigrants the region will not continue to be a dumping ground for the immigrants. NSF also submitted a memorandum to JPC chairman and MP Rajendra Agarwal. The memorandum was signed by NSF president Christopher Ltu and general secretary Imsong to ensure that the existing bill is considered as 'anti-national and detrimental' to the existing good citizens of the country. NSF also stated the bill was a mockery to the spirit of secularism given in the constitution besides violating Article 14 that guarantees right to equality.

Nagaland Tribes Council (NTC) expressed its fear for granting citizenship to people belonging to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhist, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. NTC stated that the proposed bill is 'subjective and communal' which is beyond Indian pluralism and secularism. It warned that the illegal immigrants particularly from Bangladesh will be an immediate threat to political future of the region and the identity, culture and land of the indigenous people. NTC also claimed that about 20 million illegal immigrants

are settling in Assam and with the new provision of the bill, it will continue to attract the immigrants, observing the fact of possible negative outcome the civil society organisations and MLAs' protested against the bill. NTC also warned that gradually the native landholder will be soon in the hands of the foreigners. The council also declared that All Assam Students Union should be given continuous support from all the native communities of North-East state, stating that Assam is a 'good neighbour' and a gateway to Nagaland. NTC also cautioned that when Assam is overwhelmed by the non-locals, Nagaland will be the first victim of the Citizenship Bill. NTC also demanded that Inner Line Permit should be stretched out to the whole of Nagaland by calling for making important amendments to the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873.

With the proposed Citizenship Amendment Bill, indigenous members of North Eastern States Conclave of Human Rights (NESCH) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) stood firm against the bill. The members after realising the disadvantage of the propose bill that adds to anti-communal, anti-constitutional and anti-indigenous feelings among the people, decided to submit a memorandum to President and chairman of Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Citizenship Bill. The members also express to hold protest against the propose citizenship bill across the North-Eastern state and consent among the members to form a committee on co-ordination against the bill with the following stated members namely Assam- Anup Chetia and Lachit Bordoloi, Twipra-Patal Kanya Jamatia, Arunachal Pradesh-Tage Lapung and Tadar Tarish, Manipur-Longjam Ratankumar and Bishanjit Loitongbam and from Nagaland Neingulo Krome and N.Venuh.

SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY: The migrants from Bangladesh are considered to be more skilled and hard workers. Subsequently the local people support the immigrants to engage in the work of agricultural production. Also the demands for wage of the immigrants are lower than the demands made by the local people. With the perpetual support from the local community the Miyas often end up violent to the local people and often surfaced with violence and crime scenes. Also the lackadaisical attitude of some people in transporting and harbouring illegal immigrants privately for cheap labour has hindered the efforts of administration as well as the student bodies.

Better employment opportunity in Nagaland and the vacancy for the manual labour has contributed to the continuous influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. As a result it is very easy for the immigrants to find jobs in Nagaland either in the agricultural fields or in home or employ self as a rickshaw puller or to engage in manual labour. Nagaland had attained its statehood since 55 years and most of the commercial activities are carried out by the non-locals compounded with the mentioned statement there is also shortage of labour mostly to engage in manual labours. Consequently specific sections of the society of Nagaland influence non-locals for residence by providing shelter and land for agricultural purposes.

Less safe place: With the growing tendencies of more population of illegal immigrants, Nagaland has become less safe with increasing crimes and uncertainty such as drug peddling, flesh trade, pick-pocketing, raid houses and robbery. Instances of violation of the law and involvement in illegal activities by some Bangladeshi nationals have been reported. The

existence of the illegal immigrants in Nagaland according to the law enforcement agencies felt that the problem lies in poor maintenance of the proper law and order where several crime scenes are often surfaced. Some have alleged that the instigation of criminal and anti-social activities carried out by the immigrants is the result of homeless foreigners.

The natives on 5th August 2018 decided to hold a meeting against the murder of a Naga boy Kumugha Chishi by the illegal immigrants. The crime was condemned and the natives warned all the villages to banish the immigrants before any further crimes are committed by the immigrants. The Western Sumi Hoho (WSH) and Kuhuboto Ghakhu Public Organisation claimed that the convict should be severely punished for the heinous crime. Blames were made to the government for not giving attention to ILP. The TIN decided to make aware the citizens of Nagaland about the imposition of ILP by initiating poster campaign on 4th November 2017 in Dimapur against the illegal immigrants. The natives supported the fact that murder and rape are foreign in Naga traditions and are never heard hence citizens should come together to fight against the threat to Naga society.

The majority of illegal immigrant also lives in a deplorable condition of environment compounded with lack of hygiene and are succumb to certain ailments like cholera, measles and communicable diseases which will evidently affect the health of the local mass accompanied by incurring heavy expenses for treatment and medication.

Government initiatives and internal security: an overview

The parliamentary debates on illegal immigrants (1971-2009)

Since the partition of India there has been discussion on the topic migration from Bangladesh into India in the Indian Parliament. At first, the flow of Hindu refugees from East Pakistan was emphasized. After the Bangladeshis liberation 1971, the issue of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh Migrant was raised in the parliament. In 1970s the term was used as 'migration' as against 'infiltration' or 'illegal migration' which were generally used in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000. In the 1970's, also the rehabilitation of refugees were emphasised.

Debates in the 1980's

In the early 1980's the Bangladeshi issue was raised and discussed in the parliament from time to time. By 1985, in the national Parliament there was ardent debate about the Movement of Assam's rage against the illegal immigrants. Throughout the year 1985 the influx of Bangladeshi migration was brought up frequently in the National Parliament and the word 'migration' changed into 'infiltration'. In adding to this, the fences between the border of India-Bangladesh and the 'influx' to West Bengal from Bangladesh were also emphasised. In 1989 another problem that was often discussed in the parliament was the national insecurity and the flow of the illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. In July 1989, congress MP Kamal Chaudhry, a three-time Congress MP from Punjab who joined the BJP in 1998, asked the Minister of Home Affairs about the 'number of infiltrators' arrested from both Bangladesh and Pakistan. In response to that, the then minister of state, Ministry of Home Affairs, and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, P. Chidambaram, told the House that in 1988-9

(June), 39, 509 Bangladeshi 'infiltrators' had been seized at the BSF on the Assam, Tripura, and West Bengal borders and 35,131 were pushed back and another 4,378 were handed over to state police. It was the first official record of the term 'pushback' to introduce the forced restoration of Bangladeshi's from India.

Debates in the 1990's

In the 1990s Bangladeshi migration was often brought up in the parliament, mainly by BJP members. The question about the number of illegal Bangladeshis in India was often asked by the BJP parliamentary members and demanded their deportation. The BJP's popularity in that decade was on the rise and the issue of Bangladeshi migration was one of the important election campaigns along with the Hindutva and Ram Janambhumi/ Babri Mosque campaign.

Debates during the NDA Regime (1994-2004)

While the BJP led NDA government had captured power during 1994-2004, the debates which took place in the 13th Lok Sabha (October 1999-February) were mainly on the number of Bangladeshi migrants in India and national security issues.

Jaswant Singh, India's Defence Minister from the BJP, declared to the Parliament in December 1999 that between 1990 and 1999, 65,000 Bangladeshis were restored. The Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP from West Bengal, Sudip Bandopadhyay, on the deportation problem stated that in the name of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, Indian Bengalis in Mumbai faces harassment in Mumbai merely for the reason they spoke Bengali.

From 2001 onwards, relating to Bangladeshi migrants there were two main arguments that came up from two different incidents. Firstly, when BNP and Jamaat-e-Islam coalition came to power in October 2001 there was the flow of Hindu refugees from Bangladesh. There was a 'Calling Attention' session in the Parliament in December 2001 on the rapid flow of religious minority from Bangladesh. Some of the problems brought up about Bangladeshis were: anti – India activities in Bangladesh, ISI in Bangladesh, repatriation of Bangladeshis, infiltration from Bangladeshis, ISI and Al-Qaeda activities in Bangladesh

Debates after the NDA Regime

In June 2004, the BJP lost the 14th Lok Sabha election to a Congress-led UPA. In July 2004, Shiv Sena MP, Shivaji Adhalrao Patil, asked the Minister of Law and Justice about the inclusion validity of Bangladeshi and Pakistani nationals in the list of voters in various states. Responding to that the Minister of Law and Justice H.R. Bhardwaj stated that Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa, and Delhi had Bangladeshis and Pakistanis on the former electoral rolls but the 2004 electoral did not have such situation.

Role of NSF:

The Naga students Federation on October 4 has insisted that the Government of Nagaland should start the actions to stop the flow of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants into Nagaland and the measure through Inner Line Permit to be hold operatively. The NSF addressed to the Chief

Secretary by handling a copy of memorandum demanding 'a prompt and sagacious action' to be conducted within thirty days from the day of declaration. The NSF emphasized on the impending threat of the flow of immigrants and the poor functioning of Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act of 1873 which has become out of date in present context.

THREAT TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY

Due to the continuous flow of the illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in Assam, it resulted in demand for the deportation of immigrants, with the movement started during the period from 1979-1985. Though the Parliament of India introduced the Illegal Migrants Act in the year 1983 it could not make any changes in the prevailing situation. The central and the state government signed the Assam Accord on 15th August 1985 where the leaders of various organisations like All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad took active part in the Assam movement. It is a known fact that when the Pakistan initiate to take full blown operation against the civilians of Bangladesh seeking independence of which many of them move to India. Through this Assam Accord it was to develop that there will be detection of the illegal immigrants who flee to India after March 25, 1971 and deportation to be conducted under the Foreigners Act 1946 however little progress could be seen through this development.

The Group of Ministers Report also observed that there is increase in the population and serious tensions politically, socially and economically as a result of the flow of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. The density of population of Bangladesh as estimated in 2011 is 964 per square km that ranks the world highest. The states which are highly affected are Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and West Bengal. The figure of illegal immigrants residing in India estimated about 15-20 million. States like Tripura and Meghalaya shares its border with Bangladesh. In Tripura the non-locals outnumbers the locals which contributes to the development of insurgency such as All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF). There are immigrants from Bangladesh which are spread in different regions like Arunachal Pradesh where the migrants tend to provide shelter to militant groups such as HUJI (B) under the influence of ISI group.

The internal security of India is threatened with the presence of large number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. Most of them take part in illegal and anti-social activities as a result of which creates chaos in the country. Only after the Chinese invasion in 1962, the Congress government of both the Centre and the State realised the need to protect Assam from the continuous flow of Muslims from East Pakistan. Indian Government took the initiative of introducing a scheme known as Pakistani Infiltration Prevention Scheme which later came to be known as Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners Scheme after the separation of Bangladesh in 1971. Assam is targeted to carry out pre-planned activities for many Muslim militant and fundamentalist extremist groups such as Jamait-e-Islami-e-Hind, Jamait-Ahle- Hadis, Students Islamic Organisation (SIO), Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) and Tabligh-e-Jamat that create violent activities and all types of interruption in the country. The North East region connects the rest of India with which is termed as "chicken neck". During Indo-Pak war 1965 China also threatened however the warning from Soviet Union prevented the threat. The

Islamic terrorist organisation founded in Bangladesh causes disruption in India through arms and distributing anti-Indian propaganda material among Muslims in the North-east region by taking the name of religion. The camps of fundamentalist group in Bangladesh gives shelter to the Indian terrorist group and it is also used as a channel for conveyance of weapons and other illegal activities. The Indian terrorist groups are stationed in Bangladesh where the government of Bangladesh took preventive measures as a result of which the top leaders of those organisations flees to take shelter in countries such as China, Myanmar, etc. According to sources in Assam, the Bangladesh refuses to take the illegal immigrants over 29,000 persons for the reason that they do not take into consideration the decision made by the India's Foreigners Tribunals.

CONCLUSION

The government since partition, the migration from Bangladesh topic has been discussing in the National Parliament of India. Starting with the early debates in the National Parliament in the year 1971-2009, to today's Citizenship Bill passed in 2016. The various organisation of Nagaland such as NSF, NTC, NESCH, CSO, NGO, JCPI and tribal Hohos execute actions to control the flow of immigrants and even opposes the Citizenship Bill (2016) passed by the Central government. If the Citizenship Bill becomes an Act, apparently it will be discriminating against Muslim hence it is the duty of the government to sort out the problem before granting Citizenship Bill. The National Register of Citizens got updated on 30th July 2018 which has its origin in the year 1951. The NRC final draft eliminated 40,07,077 people however there was exemption of punitive action for those who did not get registered, the status quo will be preserved on their rights and position until the NRC got finalised.

Illegal immigration is not only a problem responsible to the state but a major issue responsible for the whole nation. The issue has mount up since India got independence. The rapid influx of the illegal immigrants especially from Bangladesh is the result of the nature of the geography in which North-East India of West Bengal and Assam shares its border with Bangladesh. So strong and appropriate action is must to stop it.

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