

STEPS TO ENSURE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF PEOPLE FROM NORTH-EAST

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'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies.

National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on Crimes, received from States/Union Territories, in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available till the year 2023. Data on incidents of hate speech, racial slurs, harassment and discrimination against persons from the North-Eastern States is not maintained centrally.

There are provisions under the existing laws to take action against hate comments/ gestures and racial acts against the persons, including those from North-Eastern Region.

The Government of India has taken various steps to ensure safety and security of people from North-Eastern Region residing in different parts of India such as issuance of advisories to the States/ UT Governments regarding action plan for providing security to people from North-Eastern Region, appointment of Nodal Officers in States/UTs to address the grievances of people from the North-Eastern Region, sensitization of enforcement agencies to take appropriate action in case of harassment, setting up of Special Police Unit for North East Region (SPUNER) in Delhi Police, launching of special helpline numbers and dedicated email ID for lodging complaint/ grievances by NE people, etc.

The Chief Secretaries, Administrators and DGPs of all States/ UTs have also been advised to sensitize police personnel in their States about relevant legal provisions available in cases of racial discrimination against the persons of North-East and to replicate the best practices undertaken by Delhi Police in their respective States/UTs.

Moreover, pursuant to judgement dated 14.12.2016 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the W.P. (Civil) No. 103 of 2014, a three-member Monitoring Committee has been set up by the Ministry of Home Affairs with two members and one special invitee belonging to North East Region for monitoring of issues and redressal of grievances relating to racial discrimination faced by people from North-East residing in different parts of the country. Meetings of the Committee are held regularly.

This was stated by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha.

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