

The outsider debate: In Arunachal, old wounds flare up over

<https://indianexpress.com/article/political-pulse/outsider-debate-arunachal-old-wounds-flare-up-over-residence-certificates-8068593/lite/>

The long-standing tensions between Arunachal Pradesh's nativist civil society groups and the Chakma-Hajong communities have flared up yet again. The latest flashpoint: the issuing of residential proof certificates (RPC) to people belonging to the two communities in the state's Changlang district.

Last week, the influential All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union (AAPSU) threatened to call a state-wide agitation over the matter. In response, the state government constituted a high-level committee and suspended further issuing of tRPCs— a move the Chakmas and Hajongs termed as “humiliating” and an “infringement” of their basic rights.

Displaced from the Chittagong Hill Tracts of erstwhile East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) — first after their lands were submerged by the Kaptai hydroelectric dam on the Karnaphuli river in the early 1960s, and later as a result of religious persecution — the Chakmas (Buddhists) and Hajongs (Hindus) were settled in the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA, present-day Arunachal Pradesh) in the mid 1960s by the Government of India.

While some in the community enjoy citizenship rights in India, many are still officially “refugees”. Attempts to regularise them (in 2017, based on a Supreme Court order, the Centre had decided to grant them citizenship, without diluting the rights of local communities) have run into stiff opposition from Arunachali civil society groups and political parties, which fear it would led to the native population being overwhelmed.

To navigate this stalemate, local authorities have for decades been issuing RPCs to the Chakmas and Hajongs. “It is an innovation at the district level, just to make it convenient for the people,” said a senior district official, adding that the state government had failed to provide concrete directions on the issue despite repeated requests from the local administration.

In Arunachal, RPCs are residential proofs attesting to the place of residence of a person. They are different from the state's permanent residence certificates (PRC) — which provide documentary evidence of domicile or permanent residence. In Arunachal Pradesh, these PRCs have another dimension: they are issued only to the state's scheduled tribes — and anyone without a PRC needs an inner line permit (ILP) to visit, reside, or work in the state. The ILP is a special travel document to enter certain protected tribal areas in the country.

Chakma residents of the state have expressed disbelief over the latest round of protests. Rup Singh Chakma of the Arunachal Pradesh Chakma Students Union (APCSU) said, “RPCs merely mean that we live here — we are not even asking for PRC.”

Chakma said the RPCs were important because for many in the community, they were the only proof of identity. "It helps us in higher education in central universities, as well as Central government jobs," he said, adding that without it, the student community, or anyone seeking a job outside, would be "badly affected."

The AAPSU, which has "temporarily" called off the strike after the announcement of the high-level committee, maintains that they will be compelled to protest again if the government fails to act. "The whole Chakma-Hajma settlement is a historical wrong done to the people of Arunachal Pradesh. Some already have voting rights. Soon they will start claiming land, and this will adversely affect the state's demography and resources," said AAPSU adviser and former general secretary Tobom Dai. "We have no problem if the Centre gives them citizenship rights, but they should not settle here," said Dai.

Last year, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu had suggested something to that effect. In his Independence Day speech, Khandu had said that all "illegal" Chakmas would be shifted out of the state and relocated elsewhere. There was also talk of a special census for the two communities, leading to Chakma groups alleging that they were being "racially profiled." The National Human Rights Commission had then asked the state government to respond to these charges.

"Time and again, we are harassed like this. State government bows down to AAPSU every time," claimed APCSU's Chakma.

A senior official said the government was on tricky ground because the AAPSU is "influential", and the issue involves the "sentiments" of locals.

"While it is true that the Chakmas and Hajongs have been here since time immemorial, as a politician, it is difficult to take a side. All political parties will invariably support the AAPSU on this," said a Congress politician, who did not wish to be named.

BJP's Chowna Mein, who is Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, said the issue had been "politicised for far too long". "There should be a proposal for resolving the issue. At least our chief minister is trying to find a solution, and solve it once and for all," he said.

There is a Need to Focus on Education, Healthcare and Social ...

<https://www.latestly.com/socially/india/news/there-is-a-need-to-focus-on-education-healthcare-and-social-security-of-women-and-latest-tweet-by-pti-news-4037574.html>

<https://www.newsdrum.in/national/need-to-focus-on-education-health-of-children-of-migrant-workers-nhrc-chief-70336.html>

NHRC chairperson justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra on Wednesday said that there is a need to focus on the education, healthcare and social security of women and children in the migrant workers' community.

He was chairing an open house session organised by the National Human Rights Commission to discuss the outcome of the two research projects commissioned by it on the migrant workers in 2019-20. Migrant workers are forced to leave their abode in search of better opportunities. There is a need to focus on the education, health and social security of the women and children of the migrant workers, the NHRC chief was quoted as saying in a statement issued by the NHRC.

He said that the attention should be paid to minimum wages of migrant workers, occupational safety and the requirements of food, potable water, health, safe accommodation, effective implementation of the Public Distribution System under One Nation and One Ration Card Scheme. He also said that "the State machinery also needs to be geared up to meet any challenges as were faced by the migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns." Justice Mishra said that migrant workers contribute immensely to the economy of the country.

The steps taken to reach out to them through various digital modes and portals are appreciable. However, the digital divide should be taken care of.

He asked the participants to send their suggestions to the Commission in writing so that all the inputs are considered by it to finalise recommendations, which may be sent to the government authorities for implementation. PTI KND VN VN

इंजीनियर सन्नी हत्याकांड में पुलिस खाली हाथ, स्वजन ने खटखटाया मानवाधिकार आयोग का दरवाजा..

<https://www.jagran.com/bihar/muzaffarpur-police-empty-handed-in-engineer-sunny-murder-case-relatives-knocked-on-the-door-of-human-rights-commission-22949735.html>

अहियापुर इलाके में करीब डेढ़ महीने पूर्व हुई इंजीनियर सन्नी हत्याकांड में पुलिस की विफलता को देख स्वजन ने इंसाफ के लिए राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग का दरवाजा खटखटाया है। आयोग के साथ मुख्यमंत्री, डीजीपी समेत कई वरीय अधिकारियों को ई-मेल भेजकर शूटर की अब तक गिरफ्तारी नहीं पर नाराजगी जताई है। आयोग को ई-मेल करने के बाद जिला पुलिस हरकत में आई है।

तीन गवाहों का बयान दिया गया

मामले में पुलिस फिर से नए सिरे से हत्या की गुत्थी सुलझाने को जांच कर रही है। बताया गया कि पिछले दिनों स्वजन वरीय अधिकारियों से संपर्क स्थापित किया था। इसके बाद सन्नी के पिता का पुलिस ने पुनः बयान दर्ज किया है। इसमें उन्होंने दो रिश्तेदारों व एक किरायेदार की भूमिका को संदिग्ध बताया है। इसके साथ ही शपथ पत्र के साथ तीन गवाहों का बयान भी पुलिस को दिया गया है। इन सभी के आधार पर पुलिस मामले की जांच में जुटी है। बता दें कि 17 जून की रात अहियापुर के जीरोमाइल-बखरी रोड में सिपाहपुर के समीप इंजीनियर सन्नी कुमार (25) की गोली मारकर हत्या कर दी गई थी।

बयान से जल्द ही गुत्थी सुलझने के संकेत

मामले में स्वजन की ओर से अज्ञात पर प्राथमिकी कराई गई थी। जांच दर जांच के बाद पुलिस अब तक पूरी तरह से खाली हाथ है। मामले में पुलिस के द्वारा 40 से अधिक संदिग्धों को हिरासत में लिया गया। इन सभी से पूछताछ की गई। कई जगहों के सीसी कैमरे के वीडियो फुटेज को खंगाला गया। बावजूद पुलिस को कोई सुराग नहीं मिला। इससे यह केस पूरी तरह से ब्लाइंड की ओर बढ़ता जा रहा है, लेकिन स्वजन के पुनः बयान से जल्द ही गुत्थी सुलझने के संकेत मिल रहे हैं।

मानवाधिकार आयोग तक पहुंचा मामला

<https://www.amarujala.com/uttar-pradesh/ambekar-nagar/the-matter-reached-the-human-rights-commission-ambekar-nagar-news-lko642552052>

जिला जेल में बंद कैदी की पिटाई से हुई मौत मामले में शिकायत राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग से हुई है। मानवाधिकार जन निगरानी समिति के संयोजक डॉ. लेनिन रघुवंशी ने आयोग में शिकायत भेजकर उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराए जाने की मांग की है। शिकायत में कहा गया कि परिजनों का आरोप है कि रामसागर की जेल में बेरहमी से पिटाई की गई।

इसके चलते उसकी तबीयत बिगड़ गई और बाद में उसकी मौत हो गई। मामले की गंभीरता को देखते हुए इसकी उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराकर दोषियों के विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्रवाई तय की जाए। इससे पहले मानवाधिकार कार्यकर्ता मनोज सिंह ने जन निगरानी समिति के संयोजक को पूरे प्रकरण से अवगत कराया। इसके बाद ही उनकी तरफ से आयोग में लिखित शिकायत की गई। आयोग से कहा है कि जिला जेल में इस तरह का कृत्य होना अत्यंत गंभीर मामला है। कैदियों की सुरक्षा ताक पर है। ऐसे में इस प्रकरण में समुचित कार्रवाई की जरूरत है। (संवाद)