

## Eastern Army Commander calls on the Manipur Governor and Chief Minister



IT News  
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Lieutenant General MM Naravane, Eastern Army Commander, met the Hon'ble Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla at Raj Bhavan on 22 January 2019. He was accompanied by Lieutenant General Rajeev Sirohi, General Officer

Commanding, Spear Corps and Major General KP Singh, IG Assam Rifles (South).

The Army Commander apprised the Governor of the actions being taken by the Indian Army and Assam Rifles in coordination with other agencies, towards maintenance of peace and security in the state. The

Hon'ble Governor lauded the untiring efforts of the forces in difficult conditions and complimented them for carrying out people friendly operations. Later in the day, the Army Commander also interacted with the Chief Minister, Shri N Biren Singh and discussed the security situation in Manipur.

## Light rains forecast for city

Agency  
New Delhi, Jan 23

It was a cold Wednesday morning in the national capital with rains in the past 24 hours bringing down the minimum temperature to 8 degrees Celsius, a MeT department official said. The city received 27.8 mm rains till 8.30 AM, he said. The

minimum temperature was 12.5 degrees Celsius on Tuesday. Relative humidity was 100 percent this morning, he said. Partly cloudy skies with possibility of very light rains and thundershowers are forecast for later part of the day. Maximum temperature is likely to be around 19 degrees Celsius.

The maximum temperature was 19.4 degrees Celsius on Tuesday. Twenty-one north bound trains including Mahabodhi Express, Lichhvi Express, Brahmaputra Mail, Rewa Express, Shiv Ganga Express and Vikramshila Express were running late due to bad weather conditions, Northern Railways said.

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## The Constitutional Case .....

has also seen political persecution. In fact, some might argue that many Muslim Bengalis, who fled during the Bangladesh war, were subjected to severe persecution based on their linguistic and political ties. There is no good reason why religious persecution should be seen as more severe compared to any of these other forms of persecution. The differential treatment under the amendment bill irons over each of these complexities by legislating a religious classification. The complete absence of any factual basis behind the proposed amendment's categorisation of migrants renders it devoid of any determining principle. This categorisation is done for its own sake, only to separate non-Muslim from Muslim illegal migrants, and not in pursuance of a principle. Taken together, the amendment bill evidently does not intend to choose religious persecution as grounds of accommodation at all. The bill only intends to isolate Muslim migrants from

the three countries, in order to offer citizenship specifically to the Hindu migrants. It also aims to do so in an extraordinary fashion by altering the parameters of citizenship retrospectively. This reveals that the impossibility of identifying an adequate determining principle is not accidental. There is no determining principle simply because the government intends to enact a purely religious classification. A purely religious classification, devoid of any determining principle, is also manifestly arbitrary because it violates the fundamental constitutional value of secularism. Secularism has consistently been declared to be a facet of the Constitution's basic structure that Parliament cannot abrogate, even through its constitutional amendment powers. Citizenship law defines a country's political and constitutional identity. Laying down rules that determine membership in our political community only on the basis of one's religious

beliefs completely violates this principle. **Conclusions** The citizenship regime in India was framed during a period characterised by extremely unsettling religious tensions. These religious tensions have left their remnants in the Indian citizenship law. The Constitution granted citizenship to the migrants from Pakistan after partition. In contrast, it provided a tenuous process of registration for those who left for Pakistan during partition, but returned to India subsequently. The separate citizenship regime for Assam also reflects historical tensions along ethnic, religious, and linguistic lines. Nevertheless, Indian citizenship law has continued to remain compellingly secular. Religious and ethnic identity may have shaped this law, but have not filtered into it as qualifications or disqualifications. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill threatens to change this, potentially forever. **Concluded**

## Citizenship (Amendment) Bill: North-East heat makes Centre warm up to state consent

Agency  
New Delhi Jan 23,

With opposition to the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill showing no signs of abating in the North-East, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) sought to allay fears Tuesday and said foreigners would not be granted Indian citizenship without the consent of state governments concerned.

The MHA also said that a proposal to "provide incentives to those people who want to settle anywhere in India, except the North East" is currently under consideration.

Home Ministry spokesperson Ashok Prasad said, "The mistaken perception in the North-East about the Bill is creating insecurities. The Bill doesn't give automatic citizenship to anybody. It brings a certain category of people from particular specified areas into the consideration zone with certain eased conditions. No one will become a

citizen overnight."

The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on January 8 and has been introduced in Rajya Sabha, where the JD(U), the BJP's ally in Bihar, has vowed to oppose it. The Bill is being opposed across the North East while in Assam, groups see it as a "threat" to the indigenous communities of the region as it goes against the Assam Accord.

The Bill seeks to provide Indian citizenship to persecuted minorities, Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Christians, from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan after they have stayed in India for seven years, instead of 12 years — the current criteria. This is applicable to those who came to India before December 31, 2014.

To ease concerns, Prasad said, under the new Bill, "the state government will do verification of all claims and make recommendations, and based on those recommendations only, the central government will act.

No one will be given citizenship without the recommendations of the state government."

He clarified that not everyone who comes from the communities mentioned will be eligible. "It's only applicable for people who belong to these communities from three countries, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, who have been subjected to religious persecution. The inquiry undertaken by the state government will try to establish the person's claim for the country of origin and the individual claim for religious persecution. Once the person applying clears these two tests, the state government will consider and recommend his/her name for citizenship," said Prasad.

Referring to protests against the Bill in Assam, he said that the process of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is underway while the Bill pending before Parliament only gives relief to those who came to India after religious

persecution. Asked whether people who have filed claims and objections under the NRC, will benefit from the Bill, Prasad said, "The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill does not apply to people who have applied under claims and objections under NRC. Their case is entirely different and they cannot avail citizenship." He said the Bill is not Assam-specific and is applicable to the entire country. "There are large numbers of refugees who have come from Pakistan and Afghanistan who are settled in the western border. They will get major relief," he said.

Officials said that the Home Ministry is also considering a proposal to provide incentives to those people who want to settle anywhere in India, except the North East. Earlier, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh had said the Bill will apply to all states and Union territories and beneficiaries can reside anywhere in the country.

## Subhash Chandra Bose museum will deepen connect between history and youth, says PM Modi

Agency  
New Delhi Jan 23,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday inaugurated the Subhash Chandra Bose museum at Red Fort in New Delhi, to mark the 122nd birth anniversary of the freedom fighter. In a tribute to Netaji, the prime minister will also visit the Yashwantrao Chavan Museum, (museum on the Jallianwala Bagh and World War I) and the Museum on 1857-India's first war of Independence and

Drishyakala-Museum on Indian Art.

The museum contains some interesting and unknown facts about Netaji — right from his childhood days to documenting the Indian National Army (INA) trials. The Bose museum showcases various artefacts related to Netaji including the wooden chair and sword used by the leader, medals, badges, uniforms and other artefacts related to the INA. Remembering Bose on his birth anniversary, Modi called

him a "stalwart who committed himself towards ensuring India is free and leads a life of dignity." "I bow to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his Jayanti. We are committed to fulfilling his ideas and creating a strong India," he wrote on Twitter. On the occasion of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate three museums in Delhi. Follow LIVE updates The Yashwantrao Chavan Museum provides an authentic

account of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre that happened on April 13, 1919. The museum showcases the heroism, valour and sacrifices made by Indian soldiers during the World War-I. The Museum on 1857-India's first war of Independence portrays the historical narrative of 1857 war of independence, showcasing the valour and sacrifices made by Indians during the period. The Drishyakala- Exhibition on Indian Art showcases artworks from 16th century till India's independence.

## Hindu Sena pays tributes to Queen Victoria on death anniv, says she freed India from autocratic Mughals

Agency  
New Delhi Jan 23,

The Hindu Sena, a right-wing group, Tuesday paid tributes to Queen Victoria on her 118th death anniversary here and said she "freed India from the autocratic rule of the Mughals". Advertising The organisers of the event at Jantar Mantar here said it was the first time they paid tributes to the Empress and credited her with "uniting the princely states of India in 1857".

Surjeet Yadav, the national spokesperson and vice-president of the Hindu Sena, claimed, "India would have disintegrated into thousands of pieces had it not been the Britishers, who under the Queen, united a large number of princely states into one



entity in 1857." He also claimed that "the Britishers gave what we have today, be it the law, railways, roads, communication

networks, schools, buildings, etc." "The Britishers did not destroy our temples like the others did... They gave us the

law which we follow even today," Yadav said. "Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru could raise their voice because it was not an autocratic government. They gave Indians the first taste of freedom by allowing local self-governance in 1882," he said. He claimed the imperial army strived for equality among all castes in India. "They (the Britishers) formed the Mahar regiment. Earlier, in Bengal presidency, only people belonging to upper castes were allowed to enlist in the army," he claimed, adding "if there is a gentlemen race in the world, it is the British". The Hindu Sena had celebrated the birthday of US President Donald Trump with a cake weighing 7.1 kg in New Delhi in 2017.

## Prohibitory orders imposed in UP's Shamli district

Agency  
Muzaffarnagar, Jan 23

Prohibitory orders were imposed in Shamli district to maintain law and order and in view of the UP board examination, officials said Tuesday. Additional District Magistrate K B Singh said orders were

imposed Tuesday under Section 144 of the CrPC, preventing assembly of more than four people. People were also from carrying firearms and using loudspeakers with immediate effect.

The Uttar Pradesh Board examination will begin on February 7 and will be held over 16 working days.

## Nagaland Fire destroys nine shops in Mokokchung

Source N.P.  
Mokokchung, Jan 23,

A blazing inferno has razed down nine shops at Alongmen ward near Cosmos Hall, Mokokchung Town on January 21 around 6 p.m. Local residents along with firefighters rushed to the spot and doused off the fire thus prevented it from spreading to adjoining houses and shops.

Talking to Nagaland Post, an official from the fire & emergency services said, upon receiving telephone, fire tenders immediately rushed to spot and pressed into service to extinguish the fire. The official said the cause of the fire could not be ascertained and added that though there was no casualty reported, properties worth lakhs were destroyed.

### Notes

1 The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, No 172 of 2016, [http://164.100.47.4/Bills/Texts/LSBill/Texts/Asintroduced/172\\_2016\\_LS\\_ENG.pdf](http://164.100.47.4/Bills/Texts/LSBill/Texts/Asintroduced/172_2016_LS_ENG.pdf).

2 The Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Rules, 2015 (7 September 2015); The Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Rules, 2016 (18 July 2016), <http://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2016/170822.pdf>.

3 SO 5377(E) of 13 October 2018; SO 4132(E) of 23 December 2016.

4 In *Assam Sanmilita Mahasangha v Union of India* (2015) 3 SCC 1, a two-judge bench consisting of Justices Gogoi and Nariman requested the then Chief Justice of India to refer the constitutionality of Section 6A to a constitution bench.

5 The Citizenship Act, 1955, Sections 1, 4, 5, 6.

6 The Citizenship Act, 1955, Section 1(b) defines an "illegal migrant" as a foreigner who has entered India "without a valid passport or other travel documents and such other document or authority as may be prescribed by or under any law in that behalf," or "with a valid passport or other travel documents and such other document or authority as may be prescribed by or under any law in that behalf but remains therein beyond the permitted period of time."