

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1944

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MAY, 2015/VAISAKHA 23, 1937 (SAKA)

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF BEZBARUAH
COMMITTEE

1944. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any action on the recommendations of the Bezbaruah Committee to safeguard the interest of the people from the Northeast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted and complied with in full; and
- (d) the timeline for implementation of all measures?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d) A committee was constituted in February 2014 under the chairmanship of Shri M.P. Bezbaruah, Member, North Eastern Council to look into the various kinds of concerns of the persons hailing from the North Eastern states who are living in different parts of the country and to suggest suitable remedial measures which could be taken up by the Government. The Committee has categorized its recommendations in three following categories-

- (a) Immediate measures- need to be implemented within six months to one year.
- (b) Short term measures- need to be implemented within a period of one to one and a half years.
- (c) Long term measures- need to be implemented within a period of one and a half year to three years.

The Committee had submitted its report on 11th July 2014, and the implementation period started from 11th Jan, 2015. The recommendations made by the committee with regard to immediate measures mainly comprise legal measures, special police initiatives for safety and security of North Eastern people living in Delhi, NCR and other parts of the country, educating people about the North East and addressing their grievances including that of lack of accommodation etc. These recommendations have been accepted and are at various stages of implementation. The details are as under:-

- A panel of seven lawyers including five women lawyers has been constituted by the Delhi State Legal Service Authority (DSLISA) for providing legal assistance to the needy people from the North East. The Delhi Government is providing compensation and monetary assistance to the NE people under Delhi Victim Compensation Scheme 2011. State Bhawans of concerned NE States have also agreed to play active roles to assist the persons in distress.
- All the recommendations made by the Committee regarding special police initiatives and additional steps to be taken by the various State Police Forces and Delhi Police have been accepted for immediate implementation. These include:
 - Delhi police has initiated process of recruitment of 20 police personnel, (10 male – 10 female) each from North Eastern States.
 - North East Special Unit at New Delhi is activated to address the grievances of the NE people.
 - The cases of NE people are referred to the existing fast track courts for early decision.
 - A special helpline No.1093 for NE people has been provided and the same helpline synchronized with helpline No.100.

- In order to educate the people about the North East, Universities have been advised that history of North East and its participation in the freedom movement of the country be taught at graduation level and post-graduation level. Similar action has been initiated by the NCERT with respect to elementary and higher secondary education.
- A special scholarship scheme for students of North East Region 'Ishan Uday' has been launched from the academic session 2014-15 providing 10,000 scholarships ranging from Rs.3,500/- to Rs.5,000/- per month for studying at under-graduate level in college universities of the country.
- Under 'Ishan Vikas' scheme, selected students from school and college levels from the North Eastern States are taken to Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Technology (NITs) and other engineering institutes for exposure/internship programme.
- An action plan has been chalked out for educating the people about the rich cultural heritage of the North Eastern States and its wider coverage & promotion at the national level.
- The first North East Film Festival & North East Festival has been organized at New Delhi, showcasing culture, films, foods, sports etc.
- Sports Ministry has taken action for organizing Sports Tournaments/Events in the North Eastern States and identification of talented sports persons from North East.
- An amount of Rs.100 crore has been earmarked for setting up of National Sports University in Manipur.

In addition to above, advisories have been issued to all States and UTs requesting them to have a stringent mechanism to deal with the incidents of attacks on citizens from North-Eastern States. The State Governments and Unions Territories are taking all necessary security measures to strictly follow the directions given in the advisories.