

The Shillong Times

SC monitors NRC update

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Guwahati: The Supreme Court is keep a tab on on-going process of updating the National Register of Citizens, 1951, in Assam that is required for finding a permanent solution to the vexed problem of detection and deportation of illegal Bangladeshi migrants who came to the state after March 24, 1971.

The State Coordinator of the NRC updating process, Proteek Hajela on Monday informed that the Supreme Court was being periodically informed on the status of the NRC updating process which is an enormous exercise involving three-phase verification – field verification, office verification and family tree construction — of about 6.6 crore documents attached to total 68.23 lakh applications submitted by the residents of the state.

He said about 5.20 lakh documents would have to be sent to others states in the country for verification as these documents were submitted by residents in Assam who had their roots in others states of the country.

The official said already 2.68 lakh such documents were sent to other states for office verification and only 5029 replies could be generated so far.

At the behest of Assam government, the Registrar General of India (RGI) has asked the other states in the country to expeditiously respond to Assam government’s request for verification of NRC related documents.

Highest number of 64,547 documents were sent to West Bengal for verification and only 30 replies have been received so far.

One document was sent to Himachal Pradesh which has replied. Only two documents were sent to Chandigarh and replies for the same have been received by the NRC office here.

The official said, “The citizenship of a person has to be ascertained first for inclusion of his/her and descendants names in the updated NRC.

He also said original inhabitants of the state who are unable to submit required documents along with the NRC application, their children and descendants, who are citizens of India, shall be included in the consolidated list if the citizenship of such persons is ascertained beyond reasonable doubt and to the satisfaction of the registering authority. It will be ensured

that no original inhabitant of the state is left out of the updated NRC.”

So far total 137 cases have been registered in various police stations against submission of forged documents with NRC application. The Government of India has already provided Rs 288.18 crore to Assam government for the NRC updating process against the total fund requirement of Rs 790 crore.

The updating of NRC has been required to facilitate easy detection and deportation of illegal Bangladeshi migrants who had come to Assam after March 24, 1971.

As per the Assam Accord signed by Government of India with leaders of Assam Agitation against illegal migration the cut of date for detection and deportation of illegal migrants from Bangladesh is March 25, 1971.

Read more at <http://www.theshillongtimes.com/2016/08/02/sc-monitors-nrc-update/#zFq4zmB2VG4OMlez.99>