

Racial discrimination faced by people from north-east

2470. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of incidents of racial discrimination faced by people from North-Eastern Region, residing in different parts of the country have been noticed;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents which have taken place in the last one year in Delhi;

(c) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to stop such incidents;

(d) whether any Committee has been constituted for monitoring and redressal of grievances relating to discrimination against people from North-East; and

(e) how many Committees have been formed so far to deal with this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (e) The incidents of racial discrimination and violence against people of North Eastern States residing in different parts of country are dealt with at the State Government level. According to information made available from the States, they do not keep a separate record of racial discrimination and violence against people of North Eastern States. In view of this, it is not possible to intimate number of such incidents. The cases of racial discrimination and violence are being dealt with by the State Governments under existing law such as IPC, Cr. PC, The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 etc.

In order to deal with the concerns of persons hailing from the North-Eastern States and residing in different parts of the country, particularly in the metropolitan cities, the Union Government (MHA) constituted the Bezbaruah Committee on 05 February, 2014. The Committee submitted its report on 11 July, 2014. The recommendations made by MP Bezbaruah Committee are available on the website of Ministry of Home Affairs [http:// mha.gov.in/division_of_mha/north-east-division#](http://mha.gov.in/division_of_mha/north-east-division#). Implementation of the recommendation of the Committee relates to Central Government Ministries and State Governments and is in different stages of implementation.

Pursuant to the judgment dated 14.12.2016 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in the matter of W.P. (Civil) No. 103 of 2014, a Monitoring Committee headed by Joint Secretary (North East) has been constituted by MHA to monitor and review the implementation of M.P. Bezbaruah Committee Report and to redress the grievances faced by NE people. Meetings of Monitoring Committee are held periodically.

Various steps have been taken by the Government of India for the security of the North-Eastern people such as issuing of advisories to the State Governments as to how to avoid discrimination faced by Indian Citizens from the North Eastern States by reducing their feeling of insecurity and negativity in their minds by adequate and proactive response of police, strengthening facilities for legal assistance, extending facilities in the field of sport, educating the people about the North-East in various forms, focusing attention on the North-East on media, providing of helpline numbers, appointment of Nodal Officers to address the grievances of North-Eastern people.

Seizure of gold and narcotic drugs in Manipur

2471. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a series of seizures of gold and narcotic drugs in Manipur during the last three years by various agencies including police, customs, BSF, Assam Rifles, etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether proper probes have been conducted to nab the kingpins and those who are behind such illegal activities and the details of outcome of such exercise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government, by involving the concerned State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (c): Details of seizure of gold and narcotic drugs in Manipur during the last three years are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*). Proper investigation is carried out in all cases of seizures. Offenders are arrested and prosecuted as per provisions of law.

The Central Government has taken several measures including the following, to control illegal smuggling of gold and narcotic drugs:—

- (i) Coordination and sharing of intelligence with various law enforcement agencies of Centre like BSF, CRPF, DRI, Assam Rifles, Central Excise and Customs and of State agencies like Police and State Excise
- (ii) Conducting of training programme for law enforcement officials of State Police and state excise for upgrading their skills to combat drug menace.
- (iii) An annual action plan for destruction of illicit poppy and cannabis cultivation in coordination with State agencies.