

1. As Assam faces Supreme Court heat, why deporting 63 'foreigners' is easier said than done

Introduction



The hearing in the apex court focused on the status of 63 of the 270 inmates of the Matia "transit camp" – the designated detention camp for "illegal foreigners" in Assam. The court rapped the state for not initiating the process of deporting 63 individuals who have been declared foreigners by Foreigners Tribunals on the ground that their addresses are unknown.

In December, the court had granted the state government time to file an affidavit explaining the reasons for detaining the 270 individuals there and the steps taken for their deportation.

Who is at the camp?

There are two categories of "foreigners" among the 270 inmates.

1. Declared as Foreigners by Regular Courts: There are 103 Rohingya people, 32 Chin people and an individual from Senegal who had been referred to sessions courts where they were sentenced and convicted for violations of the Foreigners Act, the Citizenship Act and the Passports Act. These individuals are citizens of other countries, and after completing their sentences in prisons, they have been placed in the "transit camp" while awaiting deportation.

2. Declared as Foreigners by Foreigners Tribunals: The rest of the 133 inmates have been declared "foreigners" by Foreigners Tribunals in Assam – quasi-judicial bodies that determine whether or not a person presented before them is an Indian citizen.

The challenges in deportation

The process of deportation is a diplomatic issue and a central government matter. The role of the state government is limited to referring the matter to the Ministry of External Affairs.

The State government is required to fill a nationality verification status report and send it to the MEA, which sends it to the embassy or high commission of the other country. Once the embassy confirms that the individual is indeed a national of that country and the address is correct, then the person is deported.

However, in most of the cases, the persons declared as foreigners have not divulged an address country from where they were originally. One of the reasons behind not divulging address is

that these 'Declared foreigners' have been living in India from long time, and they might actually don't have address outside India.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper III; Internal Security
Source: Indian Express

2. Bill to set up Tribhuvan Sahkari University in Lok Sabha: What it will teach, why

Introduction

The government introduced a Bill to establish a new university, the Tribhuvan Sahkari University, on the campus of the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) in Gujarat. The new university will be declared an institution of national importance.



TRIBHUVAN SAHKARI UNIVERSITY BILL, 2025 INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

What is the proposal?

At present, IRMA offers specialised courses in rural management. It also provides training in the development sector, including the cooperative sector.

The new university is aimed at imparting technical and management education and training in the co-operative sector. It also aims

to promote co-operative research and development and to attain standards of global excellence.

While it will be the first university of its kind in India, several countries, such as Germany, Kenya, Colombia and Spain, have a dedicated university for cooperatives.

How will the Tribhuvan Sahkari University be different from other universities?

The Bill's Statement of Objects and Reasons says, "The University would be a specialised University, the first of its kind, in the co-operative sector, to impart and promote co-operative education, training, research and development and thereby strengthen the co-operative movement in the country."

The university aims to establish sector-specific schools such as dairy, fishery, sugar, banking, rural credit, co-operative finance, co-operative marketing, co-operative accounting, co-operative laws, co-operative audit, multi-state co-operatives, etc., on its campus or in the states that are the leaders in the respective sectors.

Why a cooperative university?

The cooperative sector plays a significant role in the country's economy. It accounts for 19 per cent of the agricultural credit availed by farmers, 35 per cent of fertiliser distribution, 25 per cent of fertiliser production, 31 per cent of sugar production, 10 per cent of the production and procurement of milk, 13 per cent of wheat procurement, 20 per cent of paddy procurement, and 21 per cent of fish production.

The government believes that the present education and training infrastructure in the co-operative sector is fragmented and inadequate to meet the demand for qualified manpower, and capacity building of existing employees, in co-operative societies.

What is the IRMA?

The IRMA was founded by Dr. Verghese Kurien, the Father of White Revolution in India, in 1979. It was established with support from the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), the Government of India, government of Gujarat, and the erstwhile Indian Dairy Corporation. It is spread over a 60-acre campus.

What will be IRMA's role after the new university comes up?

The IRMA was registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Once the Tribhuvan Sahkari University Bill, 2025 is legislated into an Act and becomes effective, the IRMA society will be dissolved. The IRMA will become one of the schools of the new university and be declared a Centre of Excellence for rural management. Its autonomy and identity will be preserved within the institutional framework of the university.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Governance

Source: Indian Express

3. U.S. sends back 200 Indians on military plane



Turned away

The U.S. started military repatriation flights after Donald Trump took over as President

■ Indian sources point out the latest repatriation is unique as it is being done using a military aircraft

■ Trump had earlier said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi "will do what's right when it comes to taking back illegal Indian immigrants from America."

■ Tuesday's exercise indicates a continued dialogue between the Trump administration and the Indian authorities

Major crackdown: A file photo of detained immigrants being boarded on a U.S. C-17 military aircraft last month. REUTERS

Deportation of 200 Indian Nationals

The Donald Trump administration has started the process of deporting illegal Indian immigrants. A military aircraft was used to deport around 200 Indian nationals. Official sources here said that the Indian side confirmed the nationality of all the individuals before the U.S. authorities went ahead with the deportation.

Around 18000 illegal immigrants

The conversation was held against the backdrop of reports that the two sides were in discussion over the presence of at least 18,000 Indian nationals in the U.S. who were being viewed as illegal immigrants by the Trump administration.

Indian sources, however, pointed out that while the deportation of Indian nationals who had landed in the U.S. through dubious means was not new, the use of a military aircraft to carry out the task was a new method.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Bilateral Relations

Source: The Hindu

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