

Centre asks Assam govt to deal with situation firmly



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The Centre has sent an advisory to the Assam government asking it to take all necessary steps to ensure safety and security for the innocent people in the violence hit Darrang and Udalguri districts. According to home ministry sources, the Centre asked the state government to maintain law and order at any cost and restore normalcy at the earliest. But the advisory was not sent under Article 355. The Centre is worried that if the clashes between Bodos and immigrant Muslims was not brought under control immediately, it would snowball into a major problem. Taking these facts into consideration, the ministry has asked the state government to deploy adequate forces in these districts. The Centre has already dispatched 1,400 paramilitary personnel to the strife-torn state. Sixteen columns of army have also been deployed to assist the local authorities. Army personnel had also staged flag march in the area to instill confidence among the people. Udalguri, Darrang limping back to normal.

Udalguri, Baska and Darrang districts are limping back to normalcy as there is no report of any untoward incident during the last 36 hours. The authorities has relaxed curfew in Udalguri town from Thursday morning till afternoon. Curfew was also relaxed in the violence-hit Kharupetia and Dalgaon towns from 9 in the morning to 5 in the evening. At least 60 persons were killed, over 200 injured, hundreds of houses have been

torched in the five day long violence in Darrang, Udalguri and Baksa districts. Moreover, thousands have been rendered homeless and these people are sheltering in the make-shift camps.

Over, 100,000 people displaced at the height of violence have been sheltering in the camps. Meanwhile, Union minister of state for external affairs E Ahmed on Thursday visited the riot hit Borigaon, Kharupetia, Bhakatpara areas and assessed the situation. He also visited the camps set up by the district administrations. Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi also is also schedule to visit the violence-hit areas of Udalguri and Darrang districts on Friday.

editor

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