

Hitesh Dev Sharma Moves Supreme Court Seeking NRC Re-verification



Comments 0



Wahidur Rahman 22 August 2025 16598 views

New Delhi/Guwahati: Former State Coordinator of the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Hitesh Dev Sharma, has approached the Supreme Court seeking a re-verification of the Assam NRC, alleging large-scale irregularities and wrongful inclusion of foreigners.

A two-judge bench comprising Justice P.S. Narasimha and Justice Atul Chandurkar admitted Sharma's petition and issued notices to the Central Government, the Assam Government, the State Coordinator of NRC, and the Registrar General of India.

The final NRC, published on August 31, 2019, left out around 19 lakh applicants, including a significant number of Bengali Hindus and Muslims. Allegations of forged documents and software manipulations during the update process, which cost the exchequer over ₹1,600 crore, soon surfaced. Sharma has repeatedly claimed that names of foreigners were included in the list, undermining the integrity of the exercise.

The NRC issue is deeply rooted in Assam's history. Since the 1970s, the state has witnessed waves of protests against illegal immigration, particularly following the influx of people during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. The Assam Agitation (1979–1985), led by the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), saw 855 people sacrifice their lives demanding the detection and deportation of illegal foreigners. This movement culminated in the 1985 Assam Accord, which promised an updated NRC to safeguard the rights of genuine citizens.

However, the exercise remained stalled for decades until the Supreme Court's intervention in 2013, following which the Tarun Gogoi-led Congress government initiated the update. After six years of verification, the final list was published in 2019.

Sharma, who has long voiced concerns on social media, said his petition aims to ensure a "correct and error-free NRC," describing it as a matter of national importance and identity.

The case is likely to reignite political debates in Assam, where the NRC remains one of the most sensitive and polarizing issues, with successive governments accused of using the foreigners' issue for electoral gains without delivering on promises of a complete and error-free citizens' register.

Wahidur Rahman

BY WAHIDUR RAHMAN

Allegations of Undeclared Assets Put BTR Chief Pramod Boro Under Pressure

Gauhati HC Orders Murder Charges Against Rat-Hole Mine Operators in Umrangso Tragedy

Motok Community Announces Series of Protests Demanding ST Status

AMSU Launches Assam Economic Blockade Over Delay in ST Status

Greedy Traders Hike Prices Overnight, Rob Citizens Ahead of GST Relief

ON THIS DAY

Justice Ajay Lamba sworn in as Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court

Players feted

Musician Kishor Giri passes away

United Bank of India officials march against bad loans at Daboka

Deplorable power supply situation in Silchar

RELATED

Rongmei Community Holds 8th Cultural and Freshers' Meet in Guwahati

GPS Study Maps Elephant Movement Across Assam, Highlights Key Corridors

UPPL Accuses BPF of Failing to Fulfil Poll Promises

NEADS, Change Alliance Partner to Strengthen Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Assam

Indigenous Peoples' Group Marks Foundation Day in Mariani
