

Citizenship and NRC Related Deaths in Assam (as of July 17, 2019)

Compiled and verified by Citizens for Justice and Peace

Year	Month	Date	Name	Details
1989			Brajendra Das (Male - IMDT)	Brajendra Das was referred to the IMDT as a suspected foreigner by the border police in 1987. The IMDT ruled that Brajendra was a foreigner, sending him down such a depressive spiral that he ended his life in a rather horrifying manner. Brajendra climbed up an electricity pole and grabbed some naked wires electrocuting himself to death.
2012	6	8	Arjun Namasudra (Male - DF)	This 32 year old Bengali Hindu hailed from Haritkar (Part-1) village in Silchar in Cachar district was served a D Voter notice. He received two notices to appear before a foreigners' tribunal, but could not do so on account of abject poverty. He was declared foreigner ex parte. According to his wife, Basana, Arjun's father Anant came to India in 1950 and even had a refugee card. She also said that Arjun was born in India.
2015	6	19	Dhiren Shill (Male - D Voter)	This Bengali Hindu from Udaltor, Sapotgram in Dhubri district was served a D Voter notice. He was required to appear before an FT. 53 year old Shill allegedly committed suicide as he was under severe stress. Interestingly, he was found to be a genuine Indian citizen.
2015	7	1	SaibunNesaLaskar (Female - NRC)	The 45 year old Bengali Muslim from Sonai in Cachar district was unable to gather legacy data. She feared that her name would not appear in the NRC and that she would be deported. This fear allegedly drove her to suicide.
2015	7		AngadSutradhar (Male - NRC)	57 year old Bengali Hindu from Pakoriguri, Salbari in Basha district allegedly committed suicide as he was unable to deal

				with the complex processes related to the NRC.
2015	11		Jamir Khan (Male - D Voter)	This 75 year old from Tinsukia hanged himself fearing exclusion from the NRC. He had been previously served a D Voter notice.
2016	9	6	AklimaBewa (Female - Daughter Suspected Foreigner)	This 62 year old woman hailing from Dankinamari in Majgaon in Bongaigaon district, allegedly committed suicide when her daughter was indicted as a suspected foreigner by the Border Police.
2017	12	1	Anowar Hussain (Male - Daughter Suspected Foreigner)	An elderly Muslim man from Bahamura in Goalpara killed himself by consuming poison when his daughter got a notice for verification of her documents. Unable to understand what was going on, Hussain panicked and committed suicide.
2017	12	3	Akram Uddin Barbhuyan (Male - NRC)	An elderly Muslim Bengali man from Silchar district allegedly committed suicide when he failed to provide sufficient documentation for the NRC process. He hanged himself to death.
2018	1	1	Hanif Khan (Male - NRC)	This 40 year old driver from Khasipur (part-2) village in Silchar in Cachar was deeply distressed when his name did not appear in the NRC draft published in December 2017. He feared deportation and allegedly committed suicide.
2018	3	19	Bijit Sen (Male - NRC)	This 60 year old from Silchar in Cachar district was depressed because his wife's name did not appear in the first NRC published in December 2017. This is what allegedly drove him to suicide.
2018	3	23	Laifon Ali (Male - D Voter)	Laifon Ali, an elderly man from Shatagaon in Barpeta district allegedly committed suicide fearing that he will be thrown into a detention camp. Despite having documentation to prove his citizenship, he had been served a D Voter notice.
2018	3	26	Sunil Baidya (Male - NRC)	This 58 year old allegedly committed suicide by consuming poison. He was upset and confused by the NRC process.
201	4	9	Ratan Ray (Male -	This 40 year old Bengali Hindu was working

8			NRC)	with the government's inland water transport authority. But when his name did not appear in the first NRC draft published in December 2017, Ray allegedly committed suicide fearing exclusion from the final list.
2018	4	10	Sahimoon Bibi (Female - NRC)	This 45 year old woman from Bidyapara in Dhubri was unable to find her legacy documentation. She was so deeply disturbed that she attempted suicide twice. She survived the first time, but died on her second attempt.
2018	4	21	Dharmeshwar Boro (Male - NRC)	This Boro tribal allegedly committed suicide because he found it difficult to understand the complex NRC process.
2018	5	26	Subrata Dey (Male - Detention Camp)	39 year old Subrata Dey, a Bengali Hindu, mysteriously breathed his last at a Detention Camp at Goalpara in Assam. He was lodged there after being declared an illegal Bangladeshi intruder by a Foreigners' Tribunal. Dey was tagged as 'D' voter (Doubtful Voter), about 8 years ago and his case was referred to Foreigners' Tribunal who eventually declared him a foreigner. Subrata Dey, who born in 1979 at his family home in South Salmara Bazar area under undivided Goalpara district, migrated with his family to Krishai which is about 70 km far from South Salmara. They had to migrate from their house several times as the Old Market area of South Salmara several hundred villages was washed away by river Brahmaputra several times since 1968. Some of these villages still experience inundation. Sometimes islands emerge nearby in the river Brahmaputra.
2018	6	13	Gopal Das (Male - Family Suspected Foreigner)	This 65 year old from Nislamari in Tangla area of Udalgiri district allegedly committed suicide because his family got a notice to appear before a Foreigners' Tribunal. Gopal was the head of the family and already under severe stress to manage their

				meagre finances. This allegedly drove him to suicide.
2018	7		Balijan Bibi (Female - Detention Camp)	This 45 year old Bengali Muslim woman from Jogighopa in Bongaigaon district was lodged in a detention center prior to her death. Earlier her husband had been marked a D Voter due to a clerical error in recording his name. His name was Azbahar, but it was recorded as Azhar in electoral records. Azbahar was declared a D Voter in 1985 and was served a foreigners' tribunal notice in 2012.
2018	7		Abala Ray (Male - D Voter)	40 year old Abala Ray of Halakura in Dhubri district first allegedly tried to kill his wife and then killed himself when he was served a D Voter notice.
2018	7	7	Khorgo Bahadur Gurung (Male - NRC)	The 57 year old from Sadia in Tinsukia was depressed because his entire family was excluded from the NRC. He allegedly committed suicide.
2018	8	7	Deben Burman (Male - NRC)	While the names of Burman, his wife and daughter appeared in the NRC draft published on July 30, 2018, his son and his two grandsons were excluded from it. This allegedly drove 71 year old Burman to suicide.
2018	8	8	Rajesh Singh (Male - NRC)	Rajesh Singh who worked as a labourer Nakhuti Village (part II), near Dashiri Tea Estate, an area that falls under the jurisdiction of Majbat Police Station, hung himself. Singh left behind a mother, a wife and four children. His father Ambeswar Singh who was a fourth grade employee of the tea estate has passed away a few years ago. However, the family had no government documents till 1967. Also Ambeswar's name did not appear in the 1971 voters list or before that, making it difficult for the family to produce legacy documents for inclusion of their names in the NRC.

				<p>Singh's mother Nikhilesh Singh was served a D Voter notice and directed to appear before a Foreigners' Tribunal twice, but she ignored it. She was therefore declared a foreigner ex parte and remanded to a detention camp one and a half years ago. Due to acute poverty, Rajesh Singh could not do anything regarding legal course to get his mother out of detention camp, adding to his feelings of helplessness and frustration. Then when the NRC final draft was released on July 30, he was shocked to discover that names of all members of his family have been excluded. After week long mental disturbance, Rajesh Singh finally took his own life.</p>
2018	8	13	Nirmal Paul (Male - NRC)	<p>This 60 year old from Katirail, Katigorah in Cachar district allegedly committed suicide by drinking pesticide as his name had not been included in the NRC.</p>
2018	8	13	Mithun Roy (Male - Hearings)	<p>The resident of Palanighat, Cachar district was frustrated due to the harassment related to the hearings process and allegedly hanged himself.</p>
2018	8	18	ChhatkiPrajapati (Female - Son in Detention Camp)	<p>This elderly woman from Tinsukia allegedly committed suicide unable to bear that her son Dinesh and son in law Tara were lodged in a detention camp.</p>
2018	9	9	Binoy Chanda (Male - Mother Suspected Foreigner)	<p>Binoy Chanda, the only earning member of his family, hailed from Dimlapar village that falls under the Tamulpur Police Station in the Baksa district. He committed suicide late at night fearing that his mother, Santi Rani Chanda, was going to be declared a 'Foreigner' by a Foreigners' Tribunal (FT). Although Santi Rani Chanda had all the relevant documents to prove that she is an Indian citizen, she received a 'Suspected Foreigner' notice in the early part of 2018.</p> <p>For seven months, Binoy and his mother repeatedly appeared before the Foreigners'</p>

				<p>Tribunal, and in the process, Binoy, a daily wage labourer, had to spend all the money that he could earn in collecting documents and travelling. His debts increased day by day. He became increasingly frustrated, and finally took the extreme step of suicide.</p>
2018	10	5	Jobbar Ali (Male - Detention Camp)	<p>Jobbar Ali, a 61 year old man who had been languishing behind bars at the Detention Camp in Tezpur, was found dead on October 5. Now, his family, many of whom are themselves fighting allegations of being doubtful or D-Voters, suspect foul play in his death.</p> <p>Ali lived with his wife Simon Nessa, two sons, daughters-in-law and their six children in a small hut in Dhanshrighat village, which falls under the Udalguri district of Assam. Ali was declared a foreigner by the Foreigners Tribunal at Mangoldoi, Darrang District in 2007. His family alleges that he was declared foreigner despite possessing valid documents proving he is an Indian citizen.</p>
2018	10	14	Bimal Chandra Ghose (Male- NRC)	<p>This 59 year old retired teacher from Karimchowk in Mandaloi in Darrang was depressed because his name did not appear in the NRC draft. This allegedly drove him to suicide.</p>
2018	10	20	Nirod Baran Das (Male -NRC)	<p>On October 20, 70-year-old Nirod Baran Das, a retired government teacher who started practicing as a lawyer, allegedly ended his life in Kharupteiya of neighbouring Darrang district. He was depressed after his name was excluded from the NRC. The NRC authorities, responding to his query over exclusion, told him he was a declared foreigner.</p> <p>Das had never received a notice from any foreigners' tribunal to prove his citizenship. A top NRC official told Hindustan Times that</p>

				it is possible that someone with the same name figured in the list of declared foreigners and that may have led to confusion.
2018	10	28	Deepak Debnath (Male - Suspected Foreigner)	After being falsely accused of being a 'foreigner', Deepak Debnath of Udalgiri district, Assam committed suicide by hanging himself in a grove near his house. 49-year-old Debnath worked as a bicycle mechanic. He was found dead in the backyard of his residence in Ghagra village of Udalguri in Bodo Territorial Administrative Districts, according to police. The family of the victim said he was upset after he received a notice from the foreigners' tribunal in Udalguri that he was a suspected foreigner and will have to prove his citizenship. Police said they are investigating an allegation by the family that officials of the local foreigners' tribunal demanded money to settle the victim's case.
2018	10	30	Sanjib Das (Male - NRC)	This 75 year old from Duliajan in Dibrugarh allegedly committed suicide because he was stressed and confused due to the complex NRC process.
2018	11	11	Afjal Ali (Male - NRC)	This elderly man was stressed due to exclusion from the NRC. He suffered chest pain and died.
2018	11	12	Abdul Jalil (Male - NRC)	This 35 year old from Balagudam, Abhaypuri in Bongaigaon allegedly killed himself using a machete because the names of his wife Halima and his 10 year old son Hamid did not appear in the NRC.
2018	11	14	SamsulHoque (Male - Wife D Voter)	SamsulHoque of village Bagariguri under the Barpeta district took the extreme decision to take his own life on November 14, 2018, because his wife MalekaKhatun's name was not included in the final draft of NRC though his name was in it. Maleka, who was declared a doubtful voter in 2005, had won her case at a foreigners' tribunal in

				Barpeta. After winning the case, the couple went to the local election commissioner's office with the judgement order, yet the D Voter tag was not removed and her name was also missing from the NRC published on July 30, 2018.
2018	11	19	Surendra Burman (Male - D Voter)	<p>Surendra Barman, a young man of 27, had been not only tagged a 'D Voter', but had also been fighting his FT case for the last two years. His name had been missing from the final draft of the NRC that was published on July 30, 2018. A few years ago, Surendra Barman gravitated to Guwahati in search of work. He was detained by the Assam Police and a 'Foreigner' case was lodged against him.</p> <p>During the last two years, this young man, the sole breadwinner of his family was also burdened with having to run from pillar to post and dish out huge sums of money to prove his citizenship. With a seven-member family to support, this broke him. The body of Surendra Barman was recovered in the jungles close to a nearby village. The incident created a huge reaction among the local people and their various organizations. The All Assam Bengali Youth Students Federation (ABYSF) led a strong protest march that blocked the national highway no 31 on the same day.</p>
2018	11	20	Monnas Ali (Male - NRC)	<p>The suicide of Monnas Ali (65) of Kamarchuburi village under the Thelamara police station in the Sonitpur District shook the local population. Monnas Ali allegedly took his life because his name did not appear in the final draft NRC. Ali, the head and only earning member of the family of 10 persons was quite depressed since the publication of the final draft NRC. Though the name of his father Sukur Ali is present in the NRC of 1951 and also in the Voters</p>

				list of 1966 and 1971, the name of Monnas Ali has been dropped from the final draft NRC.
2018	12	1	SaheraBanu (Female - Suspected Foreigner)	She was depressed as her name was referred to a foreigners' tribunal as a suspected foreigner and died.
2018	12	1	Kailash Tanti (Male-NRC)	The elderly member of a Tea Tribe, Tanti allegedly committed suicide due to his inability to understand the complex NRC process.
2018	12	3	MahiburRehman (Male -NRC)	This 65 year old was deeply upset when his wife Renu Begum's name did not appear in the NRC. A resident of Dhalachira, Nayagram in Karimganj, Rehman was a farmer. He couldn't take the stress of the claims process required to have his wife's name included in the final NRC. He collapsed at the NSK and died.
2018	12	7	Shashi Sarkar (Male - Detention Camp)	The 85 year old had been incarcerated in a detention camp for one and a half years. Unable to cope with the conditions of his captivity, he died.
2019	2	8	Sandhya Chakrabarty (Female - NRC)	The 50 year old Bengali Hindu woman from Mongoloi in Darrang allegedly committed suicide by setting herself on fire. She felt unable to deal with NRC related harassment.
2019	4	4	Bhaben Das (Male - NRC)	48 year old Bhaben Das, a daily wage labourer from a Dalit Bengali Hindu family in Bholabari Bagicha village followed in his father's footsteps and took his own life. Bhaben's father Brajendra Das was referred to the IMDT as a suspected foreigner by the border police in 1987. The IMDT ruled that Brajendra was a foreigner, sending him down such a depressive spiral that he ended his life in a rather horrifying manner. Brajendra climbed up an electricity pole and grabbed some naked wires electrocuting himself to death in 1989. Now, 30 years later, his son felt compelled

				to take his life when his citizenship came into question. They had provided Brajendra's legacy data and a copy of the 1971 voter list where his name appeared. When the NRC draft was published, the names of both, Bhaben's brother and eight year old son Bibhas appeared in it. But his own name was missing. He was subsequently served notice and Bhaben amassed a huge debt running from one hearing to another with his documents.
2019	4	6	Amrit Das (Male - Detention Camp)	Amrit Das, a Bengali Hindu was resident of Ward Number 10 of Barpeta Road, under Barpeta District. 70 year old Das was declared a foreigner through an ex-parte judgment by a Foreigners Tribunal (FT) on May 20, 2017 and subsequently lodged in the Goalpara Detention Camp. Das, who was admitted to the Goalpara Civil Hospital following complaints of uneasiness and chest pains, breathed his last on April 6, 2019. Father of two daughters and two sons, Amrit Das used to provide for his family by running a small portable snack shop.
2019	4	21	Abdul Qader Sheq (Male - NRC, D Voter)	This elderly gentleman from Majrabari, Bongaigaon allegedly committed suicide as he was unable to cope with NRC hearings as well as a D Voter case.
2019	5	7	Afzal Uddin	This elderly Muslim man allegedly committed suicide as he was feeling frustrated by the NRC process.
2019	5	13	Basudeb Biswas (Male - Detention Camp)	This 58 year old allegedly died in his sleep at the Tezpur detention camp.
2019	5	26	Ashrab Ali (Male - NRC Objection)	Ashrab Ali, a 93 year old man, was found dead in Assam's Kamrup district after someone filed an objection application against the inclusion of his name in the National Register of Citizens (NRC). His family alleges he committed suicide by consuming poison. The family says that he

				was disturbed after attending the hearing and feared he would be dragged away to a detention camp. He also feared how his family's citizenship status would now be questioned if his citizenship could not be proved.
2019	6		Suraj Ali (Male - Detention Camp)	After spending 2 years in the Tezpur detention camp, 77 year old Siraj who originally hailed from Ding, passed away in captivity.
2019	6		Sona Munda (Male - Detention Camp)	The 70 year old Tea Tribe member was lodged in the Goalpara detention camp. Unable to cope with the conditions of the prison, he died.
2019	6	19	Hikmat Ali (Male - Wife Declared Foreigner)	Hikmat Ali (55) committed suicide after his wife KadBanu was declared a 'foreigner' by the Foreigners Tribunal of Barpeta. After his wife was declared foreigner, Hikmat Ali filed a review petition at Gauhati High Court. However given the track record of other such cases so far, even in the higher judiciary, he appeared to have lost all hope and allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself.
2019	6	20	Sharfat Ali (Male - Suspected Foreigner)	Sharfat Ali (74), son of Majar Ali of Village Dhupuri under the Bijni Police station of Chirang District was served a foreigners notice by the Bongaigaon foreigners' tribunal on May 31, 2019. Sharfat Ali was served the notice by Manikpur police station of Bongaigaon District on June 15 and asked to attend the Bongaigaon Foreigners Tribunal by June 20, 2019. He was very agitated after receiving this sudden notice as he is in possession of all relevant documents since 1951 to prove his citizenship. Since the day he received the notice, Sharfat Ali, who was facing extreme poverty, stopped eating and drinking. After five days long starvation he breathed his last at noon on June 19, 2019.
201	6	26	Nur Neher Begum	Nur Neher Begum, an adolescent girl from

9		(Female - NRC)	RawmariChapari that falls under the Dalgaon Police Station in the Darrang district killed herself because of absence of proper information. Her name had not appeared in the NRC draft published on July 30, 2018. When the Additional Exclusion List was published on June 26, 2019, Nur and her confused family didn't quite grasp the purpose of the list. In the absence of proper counselling or correct information, Nur urged them to go to the Nagrik Seva Kendra (NSK) to check if her name appeared in the list, not knowing that only names of people who were left out would appear on the list. When they called from the NSK to tell her that her name was missing, Nur felt frustrated and dejected and hung herself.
2019	7	3 Joynal Abedin (Male - NRC)	Joynal Abedin, a daily wage labourer of Dumerguri village that falls under Abhayapuri police station in the Bongaigaon district was disturbed as names of some members of his family did not appear in the previous NRC draft. He had filed claims and hearing were on, but a group of miscreants allegedly told him that the names would be included only if he paid a hefty bribe. Failing to collect the amount, Abedin hung himself.
2019	7	6 Rahim Ali (Male - NRC)	37 year old daily wage labourer Rahim Ali from Bantipur village that falls under Kayakuchi police station in Barpeta district committed suicide after finding that three of his children's names had been included in the Additional Exclusions list published on June 26, 2019. Ali who worked in Guwahati first rushed back to his village and tried to get information how to deal the upcoming hearing to be held on 6th July. But, when he couldn't, he went into the forest nearby and hung himself. His body was discovered a few hours later.

2019	7	7	Kulsum Begum (Female - NRC)	Kulsum Begum of Barkhetry area under Nalbari District also took the extreme step as she was facing trouble getting linkage documents required in the process of updating the NRC. This is an acute crisis among married women as most of them do not have birth or education certificates and therefore find it difficult to provide evidence of linkage to their fathers. Kulsum also hung herself.
2019	7	8	Ambar Ali (Male - D Voter, NRC)	In Chunpura village that falls under Gabardhana police station of Baksa District, 59 year old Ambar Ali was facing D Voter cases since 1997. None of his family members' names appeared in draft NRC. He had been acutely distressed due to this for a few years. When he came to know that his family has been left out as he is a D Voter, he went to the railway track at Gandhatipara near Barpeta Road and killed himself by sitting in front of a running train.
2019	7	8	Amar Majumdar (Male - NRC hearings)	In another incident of 8th July, Amar Majumder of Silapathar of Dhemaji District in upper Assam hanged himself. He was facing NRC hearing related trouble despite allegedly having all valid documents.

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