

Date: September 30, 2025

To,

Shri Iqbal Singh Lalpura  
Hon'ble Chairperson  
National Commission for Minorities  
Email: [chairman-ncm@nic.in](mailto:chairman-ncm@nic.in)

**Subject: Urgent complaint regarding rise in hate speech against Bengali-origin Muslims wrongly branded as “Bangladeshi infiltrators”**

Respected Chairperson,

We, Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), are writing to bring to your urgent attention to an alarming increase in the incidents of hate speech at election rallies, religious gatherings, and protests. This campaign targets Bengali Muslims, lawful Indian citizens, who are stigmatized and attacked as “Bangladeshis” and “*ghuspaithiye*” (infiltrators). These inflammatory speeches, which encourage targeted harassment, are a direct affront to the secular principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

We urge the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) to take immediate cognisance of these incidents, initiate an inquiry, and recommend necessary legal and administrative actions to prevent further communal polarisation and ensure the safety and security of migrant workers. Below, we present the details of the incidents, the content of the hate speeches, their legal implications, and our request for urgent action.

## Background

The present escalation of hate speech was triggered in April 2025 by Operation Sindoor, which catalysed a wave of jingoism and a new national purpose in spotting, detaining, and deporting illegal immigrants. This has led to a coordinated drive where more than 1,500 people were “pushed out” into Bangladesh in five weeks between May - July 2025. The scale and manner of these deportations - the absence of formal orders, access to legal aid, or verification by Foreigners Tribunals - reveals a disturbing trend of expulsions without due process.

The concerted effort to 'remove foreigners' has resulted in the systematic terrorising of Bengali-speaking Muslims, a majority of whom are poor migrant workers in the unorganised sector across cities like Mumbai, Delhi, and Ahmedabad. This hostile environment has directly translated into on-ground violence and the incitement of vigilante action; reports from Odisha ([here](#)) and Uttar Pradesh ([here](#)) in

August-September demonstrate how Bengali-speaking Muslim migrant workers faced targeted violence, harassment, and profiling. We are not against any community, but against hate speech that slurs, stigmatises, and instigates targeted violence against marginalised sections discriminates against their everyday survival, livelihood, and housing.

## Summary of Incidents

### *Miya Kheda Andolon in Assam*

Since early June, Assam has witnessed a sharp escalation in hate speech, targeted harassment, violence, and state-led evictions against Bengali-origin Muslims, under the campaign to remove “illegal Bangladeshi immigrants.” Between July 9 and July 30, India Hate Lab (IHL) [documented](#) 18 rallies and protests across 14 districts, and nine cases of targeted violence and harassment.

The ‘*Miya Kheda Andolon*’ is an ongoing movement in Assam to expel Bengali-speaking Muslims. The Miya Muslims of Assam live predominantly in the flood-prone Char Chapori (river islands and embankments) areas, where thousands have lost their land to river erosion. Many landless families have resettled on government land or migrated to different cities and other districts within Assam in search of livelihoods. The term “Miya” is now used pejoratively and often as a slur against Bengali Muslims. The eviction drives in Assam have disproportionately affected Miya Muslims, many of whom have lived there for decades.

1. **Date:** June 9, 2025

**Location:** Assam (Public Statement)

**Speaker/Organisation:** Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

Chief Minister Sarma delivered a divisive speech that “newly arrived” Muslims have weaponized the consumption of beef and built masjids near Satras as tactics to drive out local Hindus.

Source: Chief Minister’s official X account

<https://x.com/himantabiswa/status/1932447192544874609>

2. **Date:** July 24, 2025

**Location:** Dibrugarh, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

Responding to a question about whether this situation might turn violent, Chief Minister Sarma replied that he wanted the “situation in Assam to be explosive,” adding that Assamese people could only survive if armed.

Source: News Live

<https://www.facebook.com/mynewsne/videos/2433206840392903/?rdid=PW8LCmi3z4T8JyQf#>

3. **Date:** July 25, 2025

**Location:** Kaliabor, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Bir Lachit Sen

Bir Lachit Sena protested against illegal Bangladeshi infiltrators in Kaliabor. They claimed, “these encroachers have forcefully broken into homes and arrived in vehicles, entering Nagaon district unlawfully.” Members stopped vehicles on Kaliabor roads and questioned them, leading to a chaotic situation eventually requiring police intervention.

Source: India Today <https://www.indiatodayne.in/assam/video/assam-bir-lachit-sena-protests-illegal-bangladeshi-infiltrators-in-kaliabor-demands-action-1250237-2025-07-25>

4. **Date:** August 2, 2025

**Location:** Udalguri, Assam (election rally)

**Speaker/Organisation:** Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

Chief Minister Sarma said there was no need to ask for documents from those he referred to as “our people.” He claimed that documents should be demanded from people who were recently evicted and alleged that people from Bangladesh were entering Assam daily. He urged the public to recognise who the real enemies of Assam are.

Source: Hindutva Watch <https://t.me/hindutvawatchin/2535>

5. **Date:** August 3, 2025

**Location:** Upper Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Situ Barua, member of Jatiya Sangrami Sena

Situ Barua is seen warning a man from Hojai district: “Shut up, you Miya... Miyas have to vacate Upper Assam within 24 hours.”

Source: News Live

<https://www.facebook.com/newslivetvofficial/videos/9057313141060416/?rdid=kCbwiW3yDtMemQzs>

6. **Date:** August 5, 2025

**Location:** Tinsukia district, Assam

**Speaker / Organisation:** All Tai Ahom Students’ Union led by Milan Buragohain

Reports quoting the union’s president, Milan Buragohain, said members of his organisation intercepted 16 “Miyas” near a bus stand in Tinsukia town on August 5. These persons were on their way to Arunachal Pradesh to work as masons and construction labourers, but were made to return home to western Assam’s Barpeta, Dhubri, and South Salmara-Mankachar districts. The union also said it issued a month’s notice to some 50 families of “illegal immigrants” to leave an area near the district’s coal-rich Margherita town.

Source: The Hindu <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/assam/miya-muslims-asked-to-vacate-parts-of-eastern-assam/article69900961.ece>

7. **Date:** August 6, 2025 (Reported)

**Location:** Sivasagar, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Bir Lachit Sen

In the Sivasagar district, Bir Lachit Sen along with at least six other organisations have been conducting house-to-house searches to verify the documents of people working as labourers and staying on rent, with the object of forcing people of “suspect nationality” to “go back to where they came from.

Source: The Hindu <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/assam/miya-muslims-asked-to-vacate-parts-of-eastern-assam/article69900961.ece>

8. **Date:** August 8, 2025

**Location:** Sonari, Upper Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Wazida Begum

Indigenous Assamese Muslim woman Wazida Begum gave strong statements distancing ‘Assamese Muslims’ from ‘Miya Muslims’ amid an ongoing eviction drive in Upper Assam. “A section of Assamese Muslims in Upper Assam have provided shelter to Miya Muslims and even entered into marital relations with them. This is extremely alarming.” She further warned that cultural assimilation through intermarriage could threaten indigenous identity by stating, “Marriage with Miya Muslims must be barred. We are Assamese by birth and we must live and die in Assam.” Wazida added, “One mistake by a local marrying a Miya girl has jeopardized the entire Sonari town today. In another remark she said, “When indigenous communities begin marrying Miya Muslims, it legitimizes their stay. We must not allow such marriages or give them shelter.”

Source: The Truth India <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNFdlGtzCSS/>

9. **Date:** August 10, 2025

**Location:** Tinsukia district, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Bir Lachit Sena (Implicit in slogans)

A maktab in Tinsukia district was partially demolished. Shahin Alam, a teacher at the maktab, was harassed to show his Aadhar card and threatened by a group of people saying, “Toi iyar pora jaboi lagibo” (You must leave this place). A recording shows a group of youth chanting slogans such as “Jai Aai Axom” and “Bir Lachit Sena Zindabad.”

Source: The Wire <https://www.instagram.com/p/DNV1or1v3es/>

10. **Date:** August 28, 2025

**Location:** Barpeta, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Hindu Suraksha Sena

Hindu Suraksha Sena staged a protest in Barpeta, chanting slogans such as “Bangladeshi Miya be warned,” “Islamic expansion won’t be allowed in Assam,” and demanding that those they deemed traitors of the country be shot. They also burned effigies of Mahmood Madani and Syeda Hamid for opposing the recent eviction drives targeting Bengali-origin Muslims.

Source: Hindutva Watch <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DN9NlvVjHTU/>

Sentinel Assam: <https://www.facebook.com/thesentinel.assam/videos/the-barpeta-unit-of-hindu-suraksha-sena-staged-a-protest-on-thursday-against-mau/1921143838735951/>

11. **Date:** August 31, 2025

**Location:** Rangia, Kamrup, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Dinesh Kalita, AHP-Rashtriya Bajrang Dal

At an AHP-Rashtriya Bajrang Dal meeting, state president Dinesh Kalita targeted Muslims, alleging that wherever their population increases, Hindus are attacked and women assaulted and killed. He promoted the conspiracy theory of “love jihad”, claiming those involved in the district are RSS-Rashtriya Muslim Manch leaders. He called for strengthening their organisation to stop the “intimidation of Bangladeshi-Miyas” and kill those who shelter them in villages.

Source: Hindutva Watch <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DOFL0MbCOqJ/>

12. **Date:** September 2, 2025

**Location:** Bongaigaon, Assam

**Speaker/Organisation:** Debajit (AHP-Rashtriya Bajrang Dal-Rashtriya Mahila Parishad event)

Leader Debajit targeted Muslims, alleging that over a thousand villages had been taken over by “Bangladeshis.” He claimed that places with names like Islampur were being established across the district and called it a conspiracy to turn India into an “Islamic State” by buying land at high prices to prevent Hindus from purchasing it.

Source: Hindutva Watch <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DOJaIMqjBg-/>

### **Hate Speech for Political Opportunism ahead of Bihar Elections**

Ahead of the Bihar assembly elections, the issue of the SIR has been defended by fearmongering about ‘Bangladeshi infiltrators,’ hate speech and dehumanisation, and encouraging vigilante targeting of Bengali-speaking Muslims.

Notably, the draft of electoral rolls released by the Election Commission on August 1 shows that not a single voter’s name was deleted on the ground of alleged infiltrators from Bangladesh, Nepal, or Myanmar. Of 65 lakh voters struck off on other grounds, the majority are workers from Patna, East Champaran and Madhubani. This data strongly suggests that the SIR disproportionately targets migrant labourers—many of them Bengali-speaking Muslims—who are away from home and unable to verify their enrolment.

13. **Date:** July 25, 2025

**Location:** Public Statement

**Speaker/Organisation:** Bharatiya Janata Party MP Jagannath Sarka

MP Jagannath Sarka alleged that “Rohingya Muslims from Bangladesh have learned Bengali and changed their names to obtain Aadhaar and voter cards” in India.

Source: ANI [https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/rohingya-muslims-using-fake-ids-for-aadhaar-voter-cards-bjp-leader-8947851?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/rohingya-muslims-using-fake-ids-for-aadhaar-voter-cards-bjp-leader-8947851?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

14. **Date:** July 25, 2025

**Location:** Public Statement

**Speaker/Organisation:** Samik Bhattacharya (West Bengal BJP President)

Mr Bhattacharya defended the implementation of the SIR by warning that failing to do so could result in the state becoming “West Bangladesh.”

Source: ANI <https://aninews.in/news/national/politics/not-a-single-rohingya-or-bangladeshi-intruder-will-stay-in-bengal-if-bjp-comes-to-power-suvendu-adhikari20250801024449/>

15. **Date:** August 25, 2025

**Location:** Purnia, Bihar

**Speaker/Organisation:** Giriraj Singh, Union Minister and BJP MP

Mr Singh referred to alleged Bangladeshi immigrants as “demons,” asked attendees if they should be killed, and urged them to buy only from Hindu vendors, eat only jhatka meat, and avoid halal.” Singh denounced statements by a former-UPA official alleging that they “aimed at carrying out a Ghazwa-e-Hind.”

Source: Hindutva Watch <https://t.me/hindutvawatchin/266>

Money Control: [https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/giriraj-singh-wants-hindus-to-only-eat-jhatka-meat-logic-behind-ministers-demand-and-why-theres-a-controversy-13515527.html?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/giriraj-singh-wants-hindus-to-only-eat-jhatka-meat-logic-behind-ministers-demand-and-why-theres-a-controversy-13515527.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

16. **Date:** September 18, 2025

**Location:** Dehri-on-Sone and Begusarai, Bihar

**Speaker/Organisation:** Amit Shah, Union Home Minister

Home Minister Amit Shah asserted that SIR would remove “impurities” from voters’ list in Bihar. Speaking at back-to-back workers’ conclaves at Dehri-on-Sone and Begusarai, which were attended by party activists from 20 of the state’s 38 districts, Shah called upon party workers to “visit every house in the state and spread the message that all districts of Bihar will be left teeming with infiltrators from Bangladesh if they (Congress, RJD and Left combine) came to power, even by fluke.”

Source: Economic Times

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/elections/assembly-elections/bihar/sir-to-remove->

[impurities-from-bihar-voters-list-rahul-lalu-want-to-protect-infiltrators-amit-shah/articleshow/123977927.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://www.cjp.org/article/show/123977927.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

17. **Date:** September 18, 2025

**Location:** Patna, Bihar

**Speaker/Organisation:** Giriraj Singh, Union Minister and BJP MP

Mr Singh alleged that mosques in Bihar are sheltering infiltrators from Bangladesh to boost the Muslim vote-bank. Speaking in Patna, he claimed that around 25 lakh votes were removed in Begusarai and accused RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi of protecting infiltrators through their yatras. Giriraj Singh compared the situation to Bengal, saying Hindus have become a minority in many districts.

Source: PTI <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/eHutUYEekOs>

### **Additional Reports of Hate Speech across India**

18. **Date:** August 15, 2025

**Location:** Budwa, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh

**Speaker/Organisation:** Durgesh Tiwari, BJP leader

At an Independence Day event in a government school, BJP leader Durgesh Tiwari peddled anti-Muslim conspiracy theories of “love jihad” and of Bangladeshi/Pakistani “*ghuspaithiye*” (infiltrators) taking economic control with fake identities. He further accused Muslims and Christian missionaries of carrying out religious conversions targeting poor, Dalit, and Adivasi communities.

Video: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNap90MtfJE/>

19. **Date:** August 20, 2025

**Location:** PGDAV College, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi

**Speaker/Organisation:** Kapil Mishra, Delhi Cabinet Minister

Kapil Mishra spread fear over alleged demographic change and claimed that Rohingya and Bangladeshi “*ghuspaith*” (infiltrators) have been settled in several states. He also peddled the anti-Muslim “love jihad” conspiracy theory and stoked fears of religious conversion.

Video: [https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNqbDePs7Y\\_/](https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNqbDePs7Y_/)

20. **Date:** August 25, 2025

**Location:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Speaker/Organisation:** Nitesh Rane, BJP MLA

Nitesh Rane fearmongered about alleged Rohingya and Bangladeshi “infiltrators” taking jobs and casting votes to make non-Hindu candidates win. He spread anti-Muslim conspiracy theories of “love jihad” and “land jihad,” declaring, “We are not goltopis or dadiwallas; we are Hindus!”

Video: <https://www.facebook.com/hindutvawatchIn/videos/location-navi-mumbai-maharashtra->



[date-august-25-at-a-varaha-jayanti-celebration-/1292620318429362/?\\_rdr](https://www.cjp.org.in/date-august-25-at-a-varaha-jayanti-celebration-/1292620318429362/?_rdr)

21. **Date:** August 25, 2025

**Location:** Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

**Speaker/Organisation:** Mahadev Baba (Akhand Aryavarta Arya Mahasabha event) Mahadev Baba claimed that Bangladeshis and Rohingyas are cannibalistic and “eat human flesh,” alleging they are obtaining Aadhaar cards in India. He targeted Muslims with slogans like “We two, our forty, everyone with an AK-47 in hand” and “We two, our seventy, everyone with bricks and stones in hand,” and questioned who would protect Hindu women from them.

Video: <https://www.facebook.com/hindutvawatchIn/videos/location-lucknow-uttar-pradeshdate-august-25at-an-akhand-aryavarta-arya-mahasabh/2723471424524131/>

22. **Date:** August 26, 2025

**Location:** Constitution Club of India, New Delhi

**Speaker/Organisation:** Unidentified Mob

Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) and Karwan-e-Mohabbat jointly convened a public tribunal titled ‘People’s Tribunal on Assam: Evictions, Detentions and the Right to Belong’ at the Constitution Club of India. The event was disrupted by a mob with aggressive and communal sloganeering, including “Desh ke Gaddaro ko / Goli maaro saalo ko” (Shoot the ones who are traitors to the nation).

Report: <https://www.thequint.com/news/politics/from-peoples-tribunal-to-syeda-hameed-targeted-hate-for-speaking-up-on-assam>

23. **Date:** September 8, 2025

**Location:** Dagarpur village, Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh

**Speaker/Organisation:** Nandkishore Gurjar, Uttar Pradesh MLA (BJP)

Mr Gurjar claimed, “Swines and Bangladeshi Rohingyas are being settled here, and they will ruin the country. I am fighting with them every day.”

Report: <https://clarionindia.net/bjp-legislator-likens-bangladeshi-and-rohingya-muslims-to-swines/>

## Legal Concerns

The divisive rhetoric which intends to promote communal enmity (Reports 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20), vigilante action by groups like Bir Lachit Sen and All Tai Ahom Students’ Union (Reports 3, 5, 6, 7, 9), calls for violence (Reports 10, 22) and targeted dehumanisation of a religious community (Reports 8, 15, 21, 23) amounts to insightful hate speech which is a punishable offence under the various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS).

- **Section 196. Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place**



**of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony. –**

**(1) Whoever –**

**(a)** by words, either spoken or written, or by signs or by visible representations or through electronic communication or otherwise, promotes or attempts to promote, on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, caste or community or any other ground whatsoever, disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both."

- **Section 197. Imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration. –**

**(1)** Whoever, by words either spoken or written or by signs or by visible representations or through electronic communication or otherwise, —

**(a)** makes or publishes any imputation that any class of persons cannot, by reason of their being members of any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community, bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established or uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India; shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

- **Section 352. Intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace. –**

Whoever intentionally insults in any manner, and thereby gives provocation to any person, intending or knowing it to be likely that such provocation will cause him to break the public peace, or to commit any other offence, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

- **Section 353. Statements conducing to public mischief. –**

**(1)** Whoever makes, publishes or circulates any statement, false information, rumour, or report, including through electronic means—

**(b)** with intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public, or to any section of the public whereby any person may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquillity; or

**(c)** with intent to incite, or which is likely to incite, any class or community of persons to commit any offence against any other class or community shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

The Representation of Peoples Act, 1951 also has a specific provision to deter elections and political processes from becoming grounds for division.

- **Section 125. Promoting enmity between classes in connection with election. –**

Any person who in connection with an election under this Act promotes or attempts to promote on grounds of religion, race, caste, community or language, feelings of enmity or hatred, between different classes of the citizens of India shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

## **Constitutional Morality**

According to Article 19(2), the closest grounds for restriction on Hate Speech can be narrowed down to

Incitement of an Offence, Public Order, Decency and Morality. The question would be: is it within the contours of Constitutional Morality to allow the de-basing and de-humanising treatment of religious minorities and vulnerable workers that subject them to a vulnerable state, an aggressive and non-conducive environment? The answer should be no given that the **Articles 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30** of the Constitution assure otherwise.

The vilification of Bengali-origin Muslims evident in the reports above therefore directly undermines this constitutional imperative of protecting communal harmony.

### **Judicial precedents against Hate Speech:**

1. In **Pravasi Bhalai Sangathan v. Union of India (2014)**, the Supreme Court defined hate speech as follows: *"Hate speech is an effort to marginalise individuals based on their membership in a group. Using expression that exposes the group to hatred, hate speech seeks to delegitimise group members in the eyes of the majority, reducing their social standing and acceptance within society. Hate speech, therefore, rises beyond causing distress to individual group members. It can have a societal impact. Hate speech lays the groundwork for later, broad attacks on vulnerable that can range from discrimination, to ostracism, segregation, deportation, violence and, in the most extreme cases, to genocide. Hate speech also impacts a protected group's ability to respond to the substantive ideas under debate, thereby placing a serious barrier to their full participation in our democracy."*

This definition applies squarely to the experiences of Bengali-origin Muslims facing targeted violence and expulsion drives.

2. In **Tehseen S. Poonawalla v. Union of India (2018)**, the Supreme Court held unequivocally that *"no one is allowed to take the law into his/her own hands"* and that vigilante violence is a *"horrendous act of mobocracy."* The Court ordered the appointment of a Nodal Police Officer (of the rank of Superintendent of Police) in each district to prevent mob violence. It also mandated that intelligence be gathered to identify potential incidents and that measures be taken to curb hate speech and the spread of fake news on social media that could incite violence.

Groups like the Bir Lachit Sen (Reports 3, 7, 9) and All Tai Ahom Students' Union (Report 6) have been taking the law into their own hands, stopping vehicles, and conducting house-to-house searches. This vigilante action is a direct violation of the *Tehseen Poonawalla* directives and the failure of law enforcement to prevent these groups and prosecute them demonstrates a deliberate failure to discharge their constitutional and legal duty.

3. In **Amish Devgan v. Union Of India (2020)**, the Court set a high standard for public figures and elected officials, holding that *"persons of influence, keeping in view their reach, impact and authority they yield on general public or the specific class to which they belong, owe a duty and have to be more responsible."*

Prominent figures Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma (Reports 1, 2, 4), Union Minister Giriraj Singh (Reports 15, 17), Uttar Pradesh MLA Nandkishore Gurjar (Report 23), and Delhi Cabinet Minister Kapil Mishra (Report 19) have used their influential positions to amplify hate speech. Their intent to target a specific community is evident in their incitement to violence (Mr Sarma has created an us-versus-them narrative, warned of an ‘explosive situation’ and has called for Assamese people to arm themselves), repeated use of dehumanising language (Mr Gurjar likened ‘Bangaladeshis’ to ‘swines’ and Mr Singh refers to them as ‘demons’) and promotion of unfounded conspiracy theories (Mr Mishra’s speech fearmongers about ‘Love Jihad’). By framing the issue of illegal migration as part of a widespread and deliberate effort by Muslims to ‘Islamise’ India, these ministers have perpetuated the myth of a planned Islamic takeover, further stirring fear and mistrust among communities.

4. In April 2023, the Supreme Court extended its previous order in **Shaheen Abdulla vs Union Of India (2022)** to all States of the Indian Union, urging that irrespective of religion, hate crimes should be prosecuted promptly without waiting for someone to lodge a complaint: *“Immediately, as and when any speech or any action takes place which attracts offences such as Section 153A, 153B, 295A and 506 of IPC etc. without any complaint being filed suo moto action be taken to register cases and proceed against the offenders in accordance with law...We further make it clear that such action be taken irrespective of the religion of the maker of the speech, so that the secular character of Bharat as envisaged by the Preamble is preserved.”*

The consistent failure of law enforcement to register FIRs and take proactive steps against the numerous incidents detailed in this complaint, despite clear video and reportorial evidence, constitutes a direct violation of the Supreme Court’s directive.

To summarise, these precedents establish three immediately applicable legal principles for the incidents reported:

1. Hate speech is a social and constitutional harm that is criminally actionable.
2. It is the judicially-declared duty of the police and executive authorities to discharge their statutory duty to prevent vigilantism.
3. Persons in positions of influence have a higher standard of responsibility against incitement of communal hate.
4. Police and executive authorities are under a judicially-declared duty to take suo motu action, preserve evidence, appoint nodal officers, and use preventive powers where necessary.

## Prayers

The rhetoric targeting ‘infiltrators’ are not good-faith efforts to maintain the integrity of Indian citizenship but part of a growing pattern of hate against Bengali-speaking Muslims and migrant workers – lawful citizens and vulnerable populations of the country. We urge immediate intervention by the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) to uphold constitutional rights and secularism, and ensure accountability for hate speech, vigilante action, and targeted harassment.

1. **Take Legal Cognisance:** Take immediate cognizance of this complaint under Section 9(1)(d) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, and initiate a full-fledged inquiry into the matter.
2. **Immediate FIRs:** Direct the police to immediately register First Information Reports (FIRs) against the individuals and organizations responsible for the hate speeches, slogans, and violence, under relevant sections of the BNS.
3. **Halt and Prosecute Vigilante Groups:** Direct state and local authorities to immediately halt all vigilantism by groups like the Bir Lachit Sen and All Tai Ahom Students' Union who have engaged in unlawful acts and targeted harassment campaigns.
4. **Ensure Compliance with Judicial Orders:** Direct the concerned police departments to strictly adhere to the Supreme Court's directives for suo motu action against hate speech, without waiting for a formal complaint.
5. **Enforce Preventive Measures:** Order the police and district authorities to invoke their powers to prevent individuals with a history of hate speech from holding rallies. Additionally, direct them to conduct videography of all rallies and public meetings to ensure accountability.
6. **Recommend Social Media Regulation:** Urge social media platforms to immediately remove the documented hateful content and take action against the accounts that are systematically spreading communal disharmony.
7. **Initiate a Fact-Finding Mission:** The Commission should initiate a fact-finding mission to investigate the systematic profiling, harassment, and evictions of Bengali-origin Muslim migrant workers across different states.

We urge the Commission to recognize that this is not a conflict between communities, but a systematic campaign of hate speech that slurs, stigmatizes, and instigates targeted violence against vulnerable sections of Indian citizens, threatening their very right to life, livelihood, and dignity.

We request your swift action in addressing this grave issue.

Sincerely,

Nandan Maluste, CJP President

Teesta Setalvad, CJP Secretary