

Regarding need to curb illegal immigration of Bangladeshis into Bhadrak in Odisha-Laid

SHRI AVIMANYU SETHI (BHADRAK): A very critical issue affecting the Bhadrak district is the increasing number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants. This situation has become a grave concern for the residents. The previous State Government assisted these illegal immigrants in obtaining Government ID cards, allowing them to stay in the Bhadrak district unlawfully. This has led to problems for locals, with reports of their involvement in illegal activities such as counterfeit currency circulation, cattle smuggling, scrap trade, poaching of endangered animals, human trafficking, drug peddling, and highway robberies. These immigrants pose a significant security threat and harm the local economy. In many coastal villages, they outnumber locals, worsening public safety, economic stability, and social harmony issues. With help from local leaders of the previous ruling party, these immigrants obtained voter IDs and ration cards, benefiting from Government schemes. It's alleged that these leaders helped them to gain votes. After settling in coastal districts like Bhadrak, they are moving to other areas. Furthermore, neighboring states reportedly encourage their entry for political gains, worsening the problem. Immediate and strict actions must be taken. Police should identify these Bangladeshi infiltrators and deport them in order to ensure safety of residents of Bhadrak by curbing illegal activities and illegal immigration.