



NORTH-EAST FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY (NEFIS)

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PRESS RELEASE

NEFIS CALLS UPON CENTRAL GOVT TO ENSURE HELP TO NORTH-EAST PEOPLE IN VARIOUS CITIES AMID LOCKDOWN!

NORTH-EAST PEOPLE FACE FINANCIAL CRISIS AND STARVATION!

DEMANDS THAT STRICT ACTION BE TAKEN AGAINST CASES OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THEM!

North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) appeals to the central government to help North-East people, including workers and students who have been stranded in various cities across India during the lockdown. The lockdown has not only led to many instances of discrimination and racism across the country, but has also left the north-east people without any source of income and subsistence. Thus, many are having to go hungry with the loss of jobs amid lockdown.

The situation has compounded with the rise in racist attacks on north-east people since the Covid-19 pandemic. It should be noted, people of the northeastern states of India, have been called with slurs such as 'Coronavirus', etc. While the phenomenon of racist slurs had been prevalent, with the pandemic the racist slurs and attacks have had a drastic increase. There are many people from North-East who have been stranded without income and subsistence in various cities across the country and thus are battling not just starvation and financial crisis, but racist attacks.

Taking cognizance of the prevailing atmosphere in the country, NEFIS, therefore, calls upon the central government to provide financial help and essentials to the people of North-east. NEFIS also demands that the central government should compulsorily ensure that the North-East people do not become victims of racial abuse and discrimination under the pretext of implementation of lockdown measures.

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