



Centre okays Citizenship Bill

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Redrafted document is likely to be tabled in Parliament today

- The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on the contentious Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016 recommended that the Assam government should help settle migrants “especially in places which are not densely populated, thus, causing lesser impact on the demographic changes and providing succour to the indigenous Assamese people”.
- The Bill paves the way to grant citizenship to six religious minorities — Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis, Christians and Buddhists — from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh who came to India before 2014.

Strong resistance

- There has been a strong resistance to the Bill in the BJP-ruled Assam as it would pave the way for giving citizenship, mostly to illegal Hindu migrants from Bangladesh, in Assam who came after March 1971, in violation of the Assam Accord of 1985.
- The Union Cabinet cleared the redrafted Citizenship Amendment Bill, and it is likely to be tabled in Parliament.
- The Director of Intelligence Bureau suggested that after the Bill was passed, one more round of verification should be done for the applicants.

The Hindu

