

No Indian will be left out of NRC, assures Rajnath



Rajnath Singh during a gathering with Northeast students — PTI

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New Delhi: Union home minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said that genuine Indian citizens should not be scared of the National Register of Citizens (NRC). He was speaking at a festival welcoming students from the Northeast who have shifted to the capital to pursue their studies.

“I want to say that no genuine Indian will be excluded from the NRC. It is necessary to know who is an Indian and who are foreigners living in India, for the security of the country,” he said at the gathering, adding that updating of the NRC, a list of Assam’s citizens, was carried out under the direct supervision of the Supreme Court.

The festival was organised by an NGO, My Home India, which is run by Sunil Deodhar who was the BJP’s campaign manager for Narendra Modi in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections and for the Tripura Assembly elections.

“Glad to interact with the youth from the Northeast at the festival in New Delhi. The youth from the Northeast are extremely talented and they have tremendous potential. The NDA government is working towards giving them a safe environment with better opportunities,” Rajnath

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Rajnath Singh,
Union home minister

later tweeted.

Speaking to the children, Rajnath said that the development of the Northeast region is necessary for India’s growth, and called it a “priority” for the Modi government. He said the government is committed to increasing communications and mobility in the region. “India can only develop when the Northeast develops,” he added.

The update of NRC, the massive Supreme Court-monitored exercise to identify genuine Indian nationals living in Assam excluded over 40 lakh people from the draft list published on July 30, creating a huge political controversy. The exercise aimed at identifying illegal immigrants in the state that borders Bangladesh was carried out in Assam following a decision in 2005 after a series of meetings between the central and state governments and the influential All Assam Students’ Union (AASU).