

Opposition Leaders File Police Complaint Against Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Amid Rising Controversy Over Anti-Muslim Remarks



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A day after Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma declared that he "will take sides" and "will not let Miya Muslims take over all of Assam," opposition leaders filed a police complaint on August 27 accusing him of promoting enmity between different religious and ethnic groups. The complaint was lodged at the Dispur police station by Assam Pradesh Congress Committee President Bhupen Borah and Assam Jatiya Parishad's Lurinjoyoti Gogoi, representing the United Opposition Forum, a coalition of groups opposed to the BJP and its allies.

The complaint, supported by Independent Rajya Sabha MP Ajit Bhuyan, Leader of the Opposition in the Assam Legislative Assembly Debabrata Saikia, and Congress's Dhubri MP Rakibul Hussain, accuses Sarma of "criminal conspiracy" to incite unrest in the state. It warns that Sarma's rhetoric could lead to a "riot-like situation" unless he is "arrested or restrained." The leaders have called for an FIR to be registered against Sarma for criminal conspiracy and promoting enmity under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

The controversy comes at a time of heightened communal tensions in Assam, particularly following the alleged gangrape of a 14-year-old girl in Nagaon district on August 22. Sarma and several ministers have labeled the incident, in which the accused are Bengali-Muslims, as an "attack on the indigenous." The complaint claims that Sarma is using the incident to "whip up communal frenzy," pointing to attacks on minority communities in Sivasagar district by BJP workers and leaders as a result.

Editorials from major publications have condemned Sarma's remarks. [The Telegraph](#) described his statements as "venomous," warning that such rhetoric could further inflame communal tensions in the state. The editorial criticized Sarma for irresponsibly using his platform to target a specific community, thereby exacerbating divisions in Assam.

[The Hindu](#) also weighed in, noting that Sarma's comments reflect a dangerous trend of politicizing ethnic and religious differences for electoral gain. The newspaper called for responsible leadership to prevent the further deterioration of communal harmony in Assam and urged the state administration to act swiftly to address the rising tensions.

The opposition's complaint also references Sarma's history of making provocative statements, including his controversial remarks last year about clearing Guwahati's footpaths of "Miya" vegetable vendors—a term often used derogatorily for Bengali-Muslims. The complaint argues that Sarma's continuous public tirades could create serious disharmony between communities in Assam, with potentially violent consequences if left unchecked.

বিবোধী এক্সপ্ৰেছ, অসম

অসম প্রদেশ কংগ্রেস, অসম জাতীয় পরিষদ, ডিপিএম, বাইজব নগর, ডিপিএম, জাতীয় নগর অসম, এমডিপি, আন্দোলন, জনতা নগর (বৈ), কংগ্রেস, ডিপিএম(এমএল)

Ref. No.: _____ Date: _____

To,
The Officer-in-Charge,
Dispur Police Station, Guwahati.

Subject: First Information Report against Sri Himanta Biswa Sarma

Sir,

We are lodging this FIR against Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, who happens to be the Chief Minister of the state for trying to promote enmity between different groups on the grounds of religion and race.

You might be aware that the entire Assam is erupting in anger against the heinous act of rape committed on a young lady from Dzing. Taking advantage of such heinous act the accused person is trying to whip up communal frenzy by targeting a particular community, which had led to attack on some people belonging to religious minority in Sivasagar by BJP workers and leaders. In one such incident one Mayur Borgohain, the defeated candidate from Nazira LAC in 2021 assembly physically assaulted some labourers working under him. This has been done as a part of conspiracy to create a riot like situation in the state and the accused named Himanta Biswa Sarma and other BJP leaders are part of the criminal conspiracy to create such unrest.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Dispur Police Station, Guwahati.

Subject: First Information Report against Sri Himanta Biswa Sarma

Mr. Sarma has history of making provocative statements targeting a particular community. One year back he had implicated people to evict people belonging to a religious community (the termed them as "Miya") from Guwahati. Continuing his trade against the religious minority the accused person on 4-8-2024 targeted a journalist named Shah Alam with obvious communal innuendos. On certain question being put the accused person referring to his religion put a counter question as to whether he would allow him and others to stay in Assam.

On 23-8-2024 during a press conference the accused person again by referring to a religious community by referring community made unfounded claim that person belonging to certain after entering a particular area starts deliberately eating beef by forcing people belonging to other communities to leave the place and this way they encroach these areas. Such continuous rants in public have the potential to create disharmony between different communities.

The belligerent nature of the accused can be gauge from the fact that in a party meeting held in recent past, he claimed himself to be a mad dog. If such a person is not arrested and restrained immediately he can create any riot like situation in the state for getting political mileage out of it.

We therefore request you kindly to register a case against the accused person and his co-conspirators under section 61, 196 and 35(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and investigate.

Yours faithfully

(Signature) 28/8/2024
(Bhupen Kumar Borah)
President

(Signature) 28/8/2024
(Lurinjoyoti Gogoi)
General Secretary

AT News

Assam Times Staff. editor@assamtimes.org

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