

Beat: News

## Gorkha Community Has Served The Nation In Difficult Times: Dr. Jitendra Singh

**Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha**

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**USPA NEWS** - The Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (I/C), Youth Affairs and Sports (I/C), Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh holding a meeting with a delegation of Gorkha Community, in New Delhi on June 11, 2016.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that the Gorkha community has served the nation in most difficult times, through thick and thin, and the stories of their bravery, valour and patriotism are an example for others.

Dr. Jitendra Singh was speaking to a delegation of "Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangha", a national organization of Gorkhas in India, who called on him on June 11, for redressal of their long pending issues and sought his intervention, particularly considering the fact that out of over one crore Gorkha population in whole of India today, the major portion of over 35 lakh lives in the North-Eastern region of the country.

The delegation, led by its National President Mr. S.M. Moktan, held a detailed meeting with Dr. Jitendra Singh, wherein they brought up the issue of proper documents being provided to the members of the community to certify that they are permanent residents of the region. In the absence of such documents, they complained, they are sometimes seen as foreigners or illegal settlers or non-locals. In many States, they complained, that lack of such documentation has also deprived them from being enlisted in voters list.

Demanding OBC (Other Backward Class) status for Gorkha community, the members of the delegation requested for fair Mr. are in various incentives and avenues. They also urged that the Gorkhas living in the Northeast States may be involved in the development and economic activity in the region. The other demands put forward by the delegation included the request to include Gorkha language in the Eighth Schedule of Constitution and introduce Nepali language as a vernacular subject in schools and colleges.

Dr Jitendra Singh gave a patient hearing to the delegation. He said, the Ministry of DoNER recognizes their sensitivities and added that many of the demands put forward by them do not strictly pertain to his Ministry and therefore he will forward them to the concerned Departments and Ministries.

Prominent among the delegation members included Mr. V.B. Thupu from Uttar Pradesh, Mr. D.C. Poudiyal and Mr. P.P. Pradhan from West Bengal, Mr. Guman Bhoj Limbo from New Delhi, Mr. Jagannath Koirala from Meghalaya and Mr. Bhupendra Adhikari from Uttarakhand.

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