

CRG in its long engagement with advocacy work of migrants' rights has conducted a public event on 12 August 2025. The public event had research organisations and civil society groups coming together to respond to worsening persecution of Bengali-speaking migrant workers in different parts of India. While researchers, professors and the Chairperson of West Bengal Minorities' Commission spoke about the plight of migrant workers, the discussion attempted to stress on the link between the crisis of education and the increase in migrant workers travelling to other states, with numerous incidents of detainment and confinement reported since May 2025. CRG released a compilation of recent newspaper reports about the persecution of migrant workers, and an information booklet about the background to these incidents, the crisis of democracy flagged by migrant workers across India and a set of recommendations. This public event called for: immediate halt to arbitrary detentions and deportations; strict adherence to legal identification procedures; cooperation between state governments to verify migrant workers' identities; policy safeguards to prevent arbitrary, linguistic profiling; a call to central trade unions to recognise the migrant workers as part of the labour force in the country and to safeguard their interests; an all-party fact finding visit to the affected areas. CRG urged the media, civil society, and policymakers to treat this as a pressing human and labour rights issue.

Additionally, an information booklet titled *Continuing Persecution of Bengali Migrant Workers* jointly compiled by the Calcutta Research Group and Know Your Neighbour was also published and widely circulated.

Radiance News: <https://radiancenews.com/research-groups-and-civil-society-expose-worsening-persecution-of-bengali-speaking-migrant-workers/>

2. Puber Kalam video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QA8F15VAofc>

3. Anandabazar Online: <https://www.anandabazar.com/lifestyle/researchers-point-out-the-lack-of-data-in-the-context-of-ongoing-harassment-of-bengali-migrant-workers-dgtl/cid/1625452>

4. The Telegraph: <https://epaper.telegraphindia.com/calcutta-edition/29/2025-08-13/page-9/article-1669550182.html>

5. Puber Kalam (online and print): <https://www.puberkalom.com/efforts-must-made-to-stop-torture-on-migrant/>

6. Kalam Digital (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QA8F15VAofc&authuser=0>

7. Two-part interview of Samata Biswas (YouTube): <https://youtu.be/S3HrxN5wlkM?si=Aj3lu3tY8kkLjiZu>
https://youtu.be/uK9yQGxdDys?si=9MT4_BYkgBLRZ22N

8. Article by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury (360info and Wire): [Is Systematic Voter Exclusion Moving Eastward to Bengal?](https://360info.org/democracy-denied-systematic-voter-exclusion-moves-eastward-to-bengal/)

<https://360info.org/democracy-denied-systematic-voter-exclusion-moves-eastward-to-bengal/>