



Entry Law for Visitors in Meghalaya

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Why in News

- Recently, the Meghalaya Cabinet has approved amendments to the **Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act (MRSSA) 2016**.
- The ordinance makes **registration on entry mandatory for visitors** who intend to **spend more than 24 hours in the state of Meghalaya**.
This will require **non-resident visitors to register themselves** on the lines of the **Inner Line Permit (ILP) system of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Mizoram**.
- The amendment comes in the backdrop of demands by civil society and political leaders, that people excluded from the **National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam** might try to enter Meghalaya.
- In the **original Act** the focus was on **registration and documentation of tenants** but the **amendments will extend similar rules to all non-state residents** visiting or living in the state.

Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act (MRSSA) 2016

- The act aims to ensure the **security of the tenants** as well as the **safety and security of the citizens of the state**.
- It provides for **verification and regulation the tenants residing in rented houses** in the state.
- It also establishes **District Task Force and Facilitation Centres** for effective enforcement of various laws for the safety and security of the citizens.

Inner Line Permit

- Inner Line Permit is an **official travel document issued** by the **Government of India** to allow inward **travel of an Indian citizen** into a protected/restricted area for a limited period.

- It is a special permit required by **“outsiders”** from other regions of the country to enter the **three states (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Mizoram)**.
- It is based on the **Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act (BEFR), 1873**.
 - This act was enacted during the British era to protect the British interests from the hill tribals who used to invade the British subjects
 - An imaginary line known as the inner-line was created to divide between the two communities so that neither party could go beyond the line without a permit from the appropriate authorities.

Source:IE