

Siberian Region Bans Migrant Workers Amid Tensions Over Rape Case

March 28, 2019



Moskva News Agency

A Siberian region rocked by allegations that Central Asian migrants raped a local woman has banned foreign workers from being employed in 33 fields.

Earlier this month, three suspects believed to be from Kyrgyzstan were detained on charges of kidnapping and raping a resident of Yakutsk, sparking <u>rallies</u> and raids against migrants.

Related article: Siberian City Holds Unauthorized Protest After Rape Blamed on Migrants

Sakha Governor Aysen Nikolayev on Wednesday <u>signed</u> a decree that bars migrant workers from sectors including transport, commerce, construction and agriculture.

The bans apply to migrants who hold special work patents, as well as <u>citizens</u> of Azerbaijan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine.

Related article: Siberian City Grinds to a Halt After Locals Protest Rape Linked to Migrant

Regional employers have been given three months to fire migrant workers employed in the specified fields, the decree said.

Officials in the republic of Sakha <u>said</u> the employment bans are unrelated to the recent surge in anti-migrant sentiments, adding that such bans <u>date</u> back at least two years in the region.

The bans, <u>designed</u> to boost native employment in specific lines of work, <u>expanded</u> from 14 areas of activity in 2017 to 16 in 2018.

Original url:

https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/03/28/siberian-region-bans-migrant-workers-amid-tensions-over-rape-case-a65000