

be adjourned twice. That being the case, we need a solution to this problem. One of the hon. Members of this House, while participating in the debate, made obnoxious, irresponsible and abusive criticism against the Leader of the Opposition, as well as, me. The Chair had expunged some of the remarks. But, unfortunately, certain sections of the media had published it widely and it has now gone across the country. It is a very serious matter. The Leader of the Opposition is an institution. We respect the leader of the ruling party, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House also. Sir, for your information – I don't know whether you are aware of it or not – the entire debate on the working of the Ministry of Home Affairs was conducted in a good manner to the satisfaction of the people and it was dignified. In such a situation, this man, without even knowing the facts, just intervened and made sweeping remarks against the Leader of the Opposition and me. Had it been outside, we knew how to give him a response and reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. What is the point?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It was made in this House. That is why we want the Chairman to take note of it. This is a question of the House. This is a question of the House, not of one individual or two individuals or the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you.

MR. M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The House should take note of it and see to it that the man withdraws the remarks or apologize for the same.

MR CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The Chair has been informed by the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs that some work is in progress and later in the day we will be a position to resolve it. ... *(Interruptions)*... Please allow the leader to speak. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we have given notice for suspension of Question Hour to take up the issue of 2G spectrum. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Maitreyan, this is a Zero Hour subject. Let us finish the Question Hour and then come to it. Question No. 561.

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### No-Fire Zone along the Bangladesh border

\*561. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is working on a plan to declare a unilateral no-fire zone along the Bangladesh border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering visa relaxation for Bangladesh residents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

*Statement*

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(c) and (d) There is a proposal to relax the procedure relating to grant of conference Visa to Bangladeshi citizens. The matter is under consideration.

Some of the other categories under consideration for relaxation include the following:-

(i) Professionals regularly visiting India, requiring longer stay than one year in rare and exceptional cases.

(ii) Visa on medical grounds including visa to accompanying/attendants/relatives.

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Sir, this border dispute has been going on for so many years. What steps has the Government taken to resolve this? I would like to know what the rate of infiltration, as well as, civilian casualties for the last ten years is.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, India and Bangladesh have good relations and in the last few months these relations have improved considerably. There is an undemarcated portion of the boundary between India and Bangladesh. There are enclaves on either side which hon. Members are aware. There is some land which is in our adverse possession, adverse possession of Indians; there is some land in the adverse possession of the Bangladeshi citizens. All these are being discussed between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh. As there is progress, we hope that in due course, India and Bangladesh would be able to resolve these issues.

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Is there any proposal from the Government side to give Indian citizenship to Bangladeshis, who came before or after 1971? I would like to know whether during the visit of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh there was any talk to resolve the differences between the two countries.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this matter is governed by the Assam Accord. There is a cut off date in the Assam Accord. The date is March, 1971. There is a procedure in the Act how to deal with those people who came before March, 1971. We are strictly adhering to the law in this matter.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, I appreciate the Government's efforts to make friends with the neighbours. The question is of those illegal migrants who came to India through the Indo-Bangladesh border which was referred to by my colleague, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, while discussing the working of the Ministry of Home Affairs. What is the view of the hon. Minister in this regard? Are those people going to be absorbed in the Indian population? Or are you going to declare them non-residents? Your Census is also very dubious the way it is going on. What is the Government's policy in regard to those immigrants?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the Government's policy has remained the same since 1971. The IMDT Act was questioned and the Act has been struck down. Now we revert to the Foreigners Act and the Foreigners (Tribunal) Order. Any illegal migrant found in any part of India would have to be detected under the Foreigners Act and the Foreigners (Tribunal) Order and then deported. It is not as though illegal migrants from Bangladesh are not being deported out of India. For example, in the last nine years, beginning 2000 to 2008, several thousand Bangladeshi nationals found overstaying their visas or illegally remaining in India have been deported. I have got the numbers. As I said, this is for the period 2000 to 2008. This process will continue. The question of setting up adequate number of tribunals and detecting illegal residents in India and deporting them is a matter on which we have addressed the Government of Assam. After the judgement of the Supreme Court, that is the only course open to us to establish a number of tribunals to detect people who are illegally staying in India and to deport them.

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, What is the position of reciprocity between us and Bangladesh? Are there very severe visa restrictions for Indians trying to go to Bangladesh? Are you also aware of the fact that a large number of Bangladeshis are there in Mumbai? Some of them have got ration cards also and they have just stayed over.

**श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी :** सर, मुझे इस पर ज़रा आपत्ति है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, पहले मेरा निवेदन सुन लिया जाए। ये दो अलग-अलग प्रश्न हैं। एक प्रश्न सीमा पर गोलीबारी रहित क्षेत्रों से संबंधित है, जिस पर अभी चर्चा हो रही है और अगला प्रश्न, जिसकी संख्या 564 है, वह घुसपैठ से संबंधित है। देश में जो घुसपैठिए या illegal migrants घुस आए हैं, उनके बारे में चर्चा अगले प्रश्न में है ...**(व्यवधान)**... अभी तो यह मसला ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Leave that to the Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी :** यह मसला तो होना चाहिए कि ...(व्यवधान)... यह तो बॉर्डर पर गोलीबारी से ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister would deal with it appropriately. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Being a Member, I have a right to put my case before the Chair, and it is for the Chair to decide whether I am right or wrong. Nobody else has the power to decide whether I am right or wrong. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR CHAIRMAN: Why are we spending precious time on this? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... The supplementary has been put. Kindly allow the hon. Minister to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री विनय कटियार : \***

**श्री सभापति :** नहीं, आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... Sorry, I have not allowed you. ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए! ...(व्यवधान)... This is not going on record. ...(व्यवधान)... This is not going on record. ...(व्यवधान)... Let the supplementary be answered.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the visa regime in India and the visa regime in Bangladesh are indeed on a reciprocal basis. I am not aware of any unusual restrictions placed by the Bangladeshi Government on Indians desiring to visit Bangladesh. It is based on reciprocity.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, recently, the hon. Supreme Court had termed infiltration as a threat to the sovereignty of the country. The BSF has disclosed that 12 lakh Bangladeshis, who had entered India between 1972 and 2005 with valid documents, did not return after expiry of their visa in 2007. Over 24,000 remained missing in 2006. I would like the Minister to reply specifically as to what steps the Ministry has taken in regard to the direction of the Supreme Court and to the statement of the BSF.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, as I said, action, that is taken on illegal immigrants, or, on people who overstayed their visas, predates the Supreme Court Judgement and continues after the Supreme Court Judgement. I don't think the Supreme Court Judgement makes any difference to the policy adopted by the successive Governments. Between 2000 and 2009, up to August 2009,

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\* Not recorded

1,06,303 Bangladeshi nationals, who were intercepted on the border, were pushed back into that country, During the same period, people, who were overstaying their visas, or, were found illegally staying in India, have been deported; every year, several thousands have been deported. For example, in the year 2004, 38,005 people were deported. So, both the things take place. We push them back at the point at which they are intercepted. We also deport them if they are found anywhere in India. But it is a grave problem. Therefore, we are doing our best to address the problem. I gave you figures pertaining to 2000-2009. I can even give you figures prior to that. The policies of the successive Governments, as far as I know, are more or less the same.

#### **Textiles park in Solapur**

\*562. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved 'Textile Park' project in Solapur, Maharashtra for socio-economic development of Solapur;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action plan, along with time schedule, to complete the work of Textile Park;

(c) if not, the authorities accountable for not sanctioning the Textile Park; and

(d) the action Government is taking for the labourers' welfare in textile industry in Solapur?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) to (c) Under the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP), forty (40) textiles park projects have been sanctioned as per the approved target. Out of these forty (40) parks, nine (9) parks have been sanctioned in the State of Maharashtra during the years 2005-2008. No textiles park project in Solapur was sanctioned as no proposal for sanction of any textiles park project in Solapur as per the guidelines of SITP had been received.

(d) The Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) was introduced to provide interim relief to the eligible workers of eligible closed textile mills in Non-SSI in the private sector. Under this scheme, 3024 workers of Solapur have been provided relief amounting to Rs. 10,07,97,820/-.

A Group Insurance Scheme (GIS) is also being implemented for welfare of powerloom workers in Association with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). Under this scheme, out of a total premium of Rs. 330/- for one year policy, Rs. 150/- is paid by Government of India, Rs. 100/- is paid by LIC and Rs. 80/- is paid by worker. In the financial year 2009-10, out of 1,42,205 workers enrolled under the scheme, 8,839 workers were from Solapur.