

- (c) the action taken by the SRA in the subject matter: and
- (d) the time frame by which area would be renamed and signages put up by DDA at relevant locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY) : (a) to (d) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that DDA gave its no objection for renaming of pockets 6 to 9 Nasirpur, Dwarka as Sector-1 A, Dwarka.

GNCTD has also informed that the proposal would be put before the next meeting of the said SRA which will take a view in the matter.

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The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Yes, we take up the Short Notice Question No. 8. Shri Mohammad Adeeb, not here.

#### Myanmarese refugees in India

8. SHRI MOHAMMAD ADEEB : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) The number of Myanmarese refugees in India.
- (b) the places where they are staying/living; and
- (c) what steps have been taken or are being taken to help them and rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) It is not possible to provide precise figures of Myanmar nationals who claim to be refugees in India. However, UNHCR has recognised 6,887 Myanmar nationals as refugees in India as on 31.3.2012.

(b) Their State-wise distribution is given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs have issued guidelines on 29.12.2011 to deal with foreigners who claim to be refugees. The guidelines require a case-to-case verification and assessment to be done by the concerned FRO/FRRO in order to

determine whether the person is actually having a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, sex, ethnic identity, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, and in such cases the guidelines provide for grant of long term visa that permits them to take up any employment in the private sector or undertake studies in any academic institution. However, economic immigrants *i.e.*, foreigners who arrive in India in search of economic opportunities without any fear of persecution will not be eligible for LTV.

***Statement - I***

*State-wise break-up of number of Myanmar nationals recognized by UNHCR as refugees*

Andaman and Nicobar Islands	44
Andhra Pradesh	01
Delhi	6830
Uttar Pradesh	02
Manipur	05
Mizoram	02
Rajasthan	01
West Bengal	02
TOTAL	6887

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Okay; any supplementary?

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir,...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Yes, Mr. Punj. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, I have allowed Mr. Punj.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, almost four thousand people, I do not know the exact number, have come all the way from Myanmar and are occupying places of historical interest in the city. Now, an effort is being made to rehabilitate them by finding a place within the city. The city is already over-crowded; the infrastructure is on strain. And can Delhi become a refuge to anybody and everybody who comes in?

Sir, another important question which I want to put to the hon. Minister is, as to how these 4,000 people or 3,000 people managed to come all the way from Myanmar. Who organized this trip? Who financed this trip? Who was the person who gave them leadership and with what motive?

Secondly, Sir, what are the steps the Government is taking to evict them from that place, which is supposed to be DDA land, and form places of historical interest? So, these are the two questions. Number one, as to who led them ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Only one question is allowed. Don't say 'two questions'!

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, it is the part of the same question. Who led these people to this country? After all, ये लोग तीन हजार किलोमीटर दूर बर्मा के बॉर्डर के जंगलों से होकर दिल्ली कैसे पहुँचे? क्या सरकार को इस बात की खबर है? दूसरा सवाल यह कि 3000 विदेशी, ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : You have made it. It is clear.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, 3,000 foreigners came to Delhi, and the Government of India is not even aware of it!

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the facts about the persons who converged before the office of the UNHCR are as follows: Sir, about 700 to 800 families from Myanmar came to India some time ago, some came a couple of years ago, and some came even earlier, and they settled in different parts of India. They had actually settled in Jammu, Aligarh, Jalalabad, Hyderabad, Muzaffarnagar, Khurja, Delhi, Punjab, Ajmer, Jaipur, Meerut, etc. On the 7th of April, 2012, apparently, due to some organized effort, all of them came by different routes and converged outside the office of the UNHCR. They demanded that they should be given refugee cards by the UNHCR, under the mistaken impression that the UNHCR will give a refugee card to anyone, who has come from any other country, and that the card will give them access to a number of benefits. Perhaps, they were misguided by some people. Sir, this is in Vasant Vihar. The local people protested there. Sir, what the authorities did was, they shifted them to a plot of land near Nangal Dewat village, which is five kilometres away. It is under the possession of the Wakf Board, but I am told that the land belongs to the Horticulture Department of the DDA. So, they were shifted to Nangal Dewat village a week ago, about 6th of May or so. Since then, the authorities have been in talks with them. I am to report to this hon. House that, yesterday, they have all been persuaded to go back to the places from which they came. Our information is, all, but a handful, have gone back by trains and buses to the places from which they originally came on the 7th of April.

There are, perhaps, some persons who have gone to a place called Madanpur Khadar in South East Delhi and they are presently putting up on a plot of land owned by Zakat Foundation. We are trying to find out what their grievances are and where they came from. Our authorities are talking to them. But all others, I am told, have gone back on their own. They have been persuaded to go back to the places from

which they came. Now the larger question of how to deal with them is engaging the authorities. In the meanwhile, litigation has been filed in the Delhi High Court. Yesterday the Delhi High Court declined to pass any order, but said that authorities must take action according to the law. I believe the matter is coming up again in the Delhi High Court. We will keep all aspects in mind including whatever order the Court may pass and we will find a satisfactory solution to the problem. But, at the moment, my information is all, but a handful of families, have gone back to the places from which they came here on the 7th of April.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Shri Husain Dalwai. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the question who organised the convergence of all these people has not been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... Is there any organised racket going on? ...*(Interruptions)*... It would not have been possible ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : This is pure communalism. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : What is communal about it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : We know your motives. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, it is unnecessary. ...*(Interruptions)*... You do not intervene. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Aiyar, you have no business. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, you have no business to intervene now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't do that.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Sir, I am absolutely satisfied with the answer our Minister has given. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : You put your question.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : I have no question now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Then why did you say, 'yes'?

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, अभी होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने दो बातें कहीं, एक तो यह कि वे लोग जो यहां पर थे, शरणार्थी हैं और वे ह्यूमन राइट्स कमीशन से मदद मांग रहे हैं। हमारी सरकार ने जब कोई मदद नहीं की तो वे वक्फ की प्रॉपर्टी पर गए। यह बिल्कुल गलत है कि वे अपनी मरजी से गए, उनके साथ बहुत बुरा व्यवहार किया गया और वे वक्फ की प्रॉपर्टी से भी भगाए गए हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि ये लोग यहां कैसे आ गए थे? लेकिन मैं दो बातें जरूर कहना चाहता हूं कि हमने इस मुल्क में हमेशा ऐसे लोगों की मदद की है जो बेरोजगार और बे-मददगार हैं। लेकिन क्या उनकी सजा सिर्फ इसलिए है कि वे मुसलमान हैं, इसलिए उनको शरणार्थी न कह कर घुसपैठी कहा जाए? क्या शरणार्थी कहकर यह

हुकूमत उनकी मदद करती? मेरा यह कहना है कि सरकार को चाहिए था कि उनके मुल्क से राबता करते। यह ठीक बात है कि बसंत विहार के लोगों को ऐतराज था और वहां से एक प्रॉब्लम खड़ी हुई थी, इसलिए एक ऐसी जगह उनको ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाता?

†[جناب محمد ادیب (اتر پردیش) : سر، ابھی بوم منسٹر صاحب نے دو باتیں کہیں، ایک تو یہ کہ وہ لوگ جو یہاں پر تھے، شرنارتھی ہیں اور وہ بیومن رائٹس کمیشن سے مدد مانگ رہے ہیں۔ ہماری سرکار نے جب کوئی مدد نہیں کی تو وہ وقف کی پراپرٹی پر گئے۔ یہ بالکل غلط ہے کہ وہ اپنی مرضی سے گئے، ان کے ساتھ بہت برا سلوک کیا گیا اور وہ وقف کی پراپرٹی سے بھی بھگتے گئے ہیں۔ میں مانتے منتری جی سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ وہ لوگ یہاں کیسے آ گئے تھے؟ لیکن میں دو باتیں ضرور کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہم نے اس ملک میں ہمیشہ ایسے لوگوں کی مدد کی ہے جو بے روزگار اور بے مددگار ہیں۔ لیکن کیا ان کی سزا صرف اسلئے ہے کہ وہ مسلمان ہیں، اس لئے ان کو شرنارتھی نہ کہہ کر گھس-پیٹھی کہا جائے؟ کیا شرنارتھی کہہ کر یہ حکومت ان کی مدد کرتی؟ میرا یہ کہنا ہے کہ سرکار کو چاہئے تھا کہ ان کے ملک سے رابطہ کرئے۔ یہ ٹھیک بات ہے کہ وسنت وبار کے لوگوں کو اعتراض تھا اور وہاں سے ایک پراہلم کھڑی ہوئی تھی، اس لئے ایک ایسی جگہ ان کو ٹرانسفر کر دیا جاتا۔]

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : सवाल पूछिए।

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब : अगर वहां ट्रांसफर करके उनके इश्यूज को मॉनिटर किया जाए तो हिन्दुस्तान की इज्जत बढ़ेगी, हमारी सरकार की इज्जत बढ़ेगी, घटेगी नहीं।

†[جناب محمد ادیب : اگر وہاں ٹرانسفر کر کے ان کے ایشوز کو مانیٹر کیا جائے تو ہندوستان کی عزت بڑھے گی، ہماری سرکار کی عزت بڑھے گی، گھٹے گی نہیں۔]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलवीर पुंज : यह मुल्क है या धर्मशाला है?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : You are not allowed. ...(Interruptions).... Three supplementaries are over. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, my question is related to that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I will answer his question first. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, only one second. ...(*Interruptions*)... If people from other religions have been allowed and Muslims have been denied, then it is very unfair ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Mr. Chidambaram, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have carefully avoided any reference to religion because I do not think we should inject religion into this question and answer. The fact is that these families came to India, at different times, some time ago. It is not as though they came in the month of April. Many of them have come a couple of years ago, and many of them came three-four years ago. Now, similarly, others have also entered India without visas, because the borders are porous. Now, as far as these families are concerned—and I say it with respect that this Short Notice Question is concerned about these families—they came from different places, and I have given even the list of places. It is not as though they were not living somewhere in India. It is not as though they had no place or no shelter. They were living in these places for months, some, even for a couple of years. On the 7th of April, they converged here, and I indicated that they could not have done so without some kind of an organization. All that is being looked into. In the meanwhile, the immediate problem was that the local people protested. So, they were moved to another village; I have given the name of that village. There again, the local people protested, saying that this was only temporary and that we would have to find a solution. Now, after the authorities spoke to them—and I say this on the basis of information and facts provided to me—they have now agreed, and they have gone back, or, are going back, to their respective places, except a handful of families. Now, they will go back to the respective places. In the meanwhile, there are guidelines framed by the Government towards the end of last year, which talk about how such people should be dealt with. They have come into India without visas. They have not yet applied for refugee status. They want refugee cards from the UNHCR. The guidelines have been framed. They will have to go back. The local FRRO office will have to get the list, and we will have to examine each case on merits according to the guidelines that have been framed. There is no question of discriminating against one set of people because they belong to, or do not belong to, a religion. The guidelines would apply uniformly, fairly and without discrimination.

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#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### **Report and Account (2010-11) of V.V. Giri National Labour Institute NOIDA and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—