

(c) if so, whether Government has since identified them from the security and intelligence aspects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government on their stay in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A number of Pakistani nationals belonging to minority communities in Pakistan, mainly Hindus and Sikhs, have not gone back to Pakistan on the grounds of religious persecution in Pakistan and they have been seeking extension of their visas and permission to apply for Long Term Visa to stay in India. This matter has been examined by the Government. Government has issued instructions on 7th March, 2012 to all State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to consider such cases of Pakistani nationals in the light of the guideline issued by the Government on 29th December, 2011 for dealing with cases of foreign nationals in India, who claim to be refugees. These guidelines stipulate that in case it is found that prima facie the claim is justified on the grounds of a well founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, sex, nationality, ethnic identity, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, the State Governments/UT Administrations may recommend the cases to the Ministry of Home Affairs for grant of Long Term Visa after due enquiry.

Maharashtra Housing (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2012

4559. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Housing (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2012 is long pending to get assent of the Hon'ble President of India;

(b) the reasons for the delay in getting the assent of the Hon'ble President in this respect as the new provisions incorporated in this Bill by the Maharashtra State Government would safeguard the interest of the consumers and give relief to them; and

(c) by when the assent to this Bill is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Maharashtra Housing (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2012, as passed by the State Legislature and reserved by the Governor of Maharashtra under Article 200 read with Article 254(2) of the Constitution of India for seeking assent of the President of India under Article 201 of the Constitution of India was received in the Ministry of Home

Affairs on 07/09/2012. The Bill was referred to the concerned central Ministries/ Departments for comments/observations. The comments/ observations from all central Ministries/Departments have been received except from the Ministry of Housing and Poverty Alleviation which was last reminded on 25.2.2013.

(c) The State Legislation is examined in consultation with the Central Ministries/Departments from the following angles, viz,

- (i) Repugnancy with Central laws;
- (ii) Deviation from National or Central Policy; and
- (iii) Legal and Constitutional validity.

Whenever necessary, the State Governments are advised to modify/amend provisions of such legislation keeping the above in view. Sometimes, discussions are also held with the State Government and Ministries/Departments of the Government of India with a view to arrive at a decision expeditiously. Hence, no time frame can be fixed in this behalf.

Recovery of cost of damages from bandh organisers

4560. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court had directed Government in the year 2009 to frame guidelines for recovery of cost of damages from the bandh organizers by amending the Prevention of Damages to Public Property Act;

(b) if so, whether Government has implemented the direction;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the State-wise number of strikes/bandhs, their organisers for the last two years;

(e) the details of public property damaged in each of the bandh and the damages recovered from the organisers; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds for modernisation of State Police Forces

4561. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: