

**Encroachment in Sarnath**

1903. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area of land in land records at Sarnath as protected, restricted and regulated area under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) the details of land in protected, regulated and restricted area actually under ASI at Sarnath;

(c) the area-wise details of land encroachment at Sarnath, protected, regulated and restricted; and

(d) the area-wise details of encroachment removed at Sarnath during the last two years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

**Illegal migrants in Gujarat**

1904. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Pakistani criminals arrested from the Border areas of Gujarat have been found to have secured Indian citizenship;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of illegal migrants are reportedly living in Gujarat and they have been found to have secured Indian citizenship; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to evict and repatriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Illegal migrants fall into two categories: (i) foreign nationals who have entered India without any valid travel documents; (ii) foreign nationals who have entered India on valid travel documents and found to be overstaying. There have been reports of foreign nationals having entered the country without valid travel documents. Entry of such foreign nationals into India is clandestine and surreptitious.

Hence, no centralized data of such migrants is maintained. A number of foreign nationals who came to India on valid travel documents have been found to be overstaying after expiry of their visa. As and when a foreign national is detected to be overstaying in India violating the visa rules or found to be staying without any valid travel documents, necessary action is taken under the relevant provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 including deportation of such a foreign national. Central Government is vested with powers to deport a foreign national under Section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. The powers to identify and deport illegally staying foreign nationals have also been delegated to the State Government/ Union Territory Administrations. Number of foreigners found overstaying and deported from Gujarat in last three years is as given below :

Year	Overstay As on 31st of each year	Deportation 1st Jan. to December
2012	78	6
2013	88	4
2014	58	112

Granting of Indian Citizenship to a foreigner is governed by various provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955. Citizenship is granted after due verifications and enquiry reports from various agencies once they fulfill eligibility conditions.

#### **Taj Mahal turning yellow due to pollution**

1905. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Heritage Taj Mahal is turning yellow due to surrounding pollution and a recent Indo-US study revealed that carbon particles from diesel vehicles along with biomass are causing the Taj turning into yellow, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has engaged International experts for restoration work at the 1715 century monument and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) No Sir. The dust particles and carbonaceous pollutants as well as Suspended Particulate Matter, if get deposited on any stone surface, the original colour and sheen of the surface is masked to some extent. Gaseous pollutants also contribute to reduce the clear visibility of the original surface. However, local authorities are taking necessary steps to reduce pollution around the Taj Mahal. Archaeological