

The Nazir (caretaker) of the Hyderabad Rubath in Mecca is reported to be willing to accommodate the Hajis, provided the selection of the pilgrims by Auqaf Committee, based in Hyderabad, is made more transparent. In this connection, the Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana had discussions with the Nazir during his visit to Jeddah in 2014 and further to these, it might be possible for the Hajis to be accommodated free of cost in Hyderabad Rubath in Mecca during Haj-2015.

#### **Review of women harassment and dowry laws**

26. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the initiative of Hon'ble Supreme Court, a proposal regarding review of law on women harassment and dowry laws is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been an increase in the number of such incidents in past few days, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating any plan for early disposal of such cases, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

(b) As per the provisional data of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) which is available upto 2013 a total no. 228649, 244270 and 309546 of cases of crime against women including dowry cases have been registered in the 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively which shows an increasing trend.

(c) As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution, and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

#### **Jobs for Indian returning from Yemen**

27. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking steps towards providing jobs to the Indian citizens who have returned from Yemen, due to the on-going civil war, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the security measures provided by the Ministry for those citizens who chose to stay back in Yemen due to financial reasons; and

(c) the initiatives of the Ministry, if any, to help relieve the debts of the citizens who would return to India with huge financial loans and without employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (c) The Ministry has requested the State Governments concerned to provide all necessary assistance to rehabilitate the returnees and ensure their well-being under the existing State/Central Government schemes, for which they are otherwise eligible on priority basis.

(b) Yemen is currently witnessing major turmoil and a civil war like situation.

The Ministry of External Affairs and our Embassy in Sana'a issued three advisories on 21st January, 19th March and 25th March, 2015 this year urging our nationals there to leave Yemen voluntarily by available commercial means as it was safe to do so at that time.

The Government of India is in regular touch with the concerned authorities in Yemen to ensure safety and security of Indian nationals still residing in Yemen.

#### **Support to upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka**

28. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has promised to support plantation or upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka;

(b) whether Government has received a proposal for building twenty thousand houses for plantation or upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken any decision on the construction of above said houses for plantation and upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) As part of its development cooperation with Sri Lanka, Government of India has been assisting in the implementation of a number of projects in that country. Many of these projects benefit plantation/upcountry Tamils, including in the fields of housing, education, vocational training, health, and community development initiatives. Government of India has recently received a request for constructing twenty thousand new houses for plantation/upcountry Tamils and upgrading thirty thousand existing line houses, as well as provision of drinking