

Survey of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees

1175. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done any survey of the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees living in Tamil Nadu and other places of find out their willingness to return to their native country or get citizenship of India since they are living in refugee camps for more than 25 years and even after peace prevails in Sri Lanka according to UN Report; and

(b) if not, what is Government's commitment on refugee protection on life and livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Odisha, as on 01.01.2016, there are 64,144 refugees staying in 107 ordinary camps in Tamil Nadu and 22 refugees staying in 1 camp in Odisha. In addition, 36861 refugees are staying outside the camps after getting themselves registered in the nearest police station.

Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who are residing in camps are provided with accommodation, electricity, drinking water and toilet facilities etc. free of cost. In addition, other facilities such as monthly cash assistance, free clothing materials, utensils, subsidised ration, educational assistance etc. are provided. Besides, the State Government is also extending various Welfare Schemes such as Girl Child Protection Scheme, Social Security Scheme, Maternity Financial Assistance Scheme, Marriage Assistance Scheme etc. to the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in the camps.

On 16.12.2015, the Central Government decided to waive the visa fees and overstay penalty in respect of Sri Lankan refugees who came to India prior to 9th January, 2015 and who opt to voluntarily return to Sri Lanka.

Infiltration on Indo-Bangladesh border through riverine border

1176. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of large scale infiltration on Indo-Bangladesh border using boats through the riverine border;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the number of cases of infiltration through riverine border came to the notice of Government during last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to stop infiltration from Bangladesh using boats through riverine border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) and (b) No large scale infiltration on Indo-Bangladesh border using boats through the riverine border has come to notice of Border Security Force (BSF).

(c) The riverine areas of all the borders are patrolled by the Border Security Forces (BSF) with the help of Floating Border Out Posts (FBOPs), Mechanized Boats, Speed boats, Medium Crafts etc. as per the availability. The Hi-Tech surveillance equipments along with day and night vision devices are also used for domination of riverine border areas. Further, to enhance surveillance along riverine areas of the border, recently, Ministry of Home Affairs has 'in-principle' approved deployment of Technology Solutions in the riverine/low-lying stretches of the border in form of Sensors, Cameras, Optical Fiber Cables, Radars etc.

Legal, social and cultural measures to put an end to honour killings

1177. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken notice of directions of various High Courts expressing distress over, 'honour killings' of young couples belonging to different castes by their own relatives and asking to protect inter-caste couples;

(b) how many such couples had such tragic ends during last three years;

(c) whether Government intends to adopt legal, social and cultural measures to put an end to such heinous crimes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has started collecting data on murder (section 302 IPC) and culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC) with the motive of honour killing since 2014. State/UT-wise number of cases reported under murder (section 302 IPC) and culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC) with the motive of honour killing during 2014 and 2015 is given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*).

The Law Commission in 242nd Report titled as "Prevention of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliances (In the name of Honour and Tradition) recommended for bringing a stand alone legislation namely "The Prohibition of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliance Bill".