

- (c) by when the remaining persons are likely to be granted Indian citizenship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) In the absence of any authentic survey, the accurate data of Sikh and Hindu refugees who came from Afghanistan and Pakistan during the last three years is not available.

(b) and (c) As per the data available in online system, 1595 Pakistani and 391 Afghanistani migrants of all religions have been granted Indian Citizenship in last 3 years (2016 to 2018). Provision for capturing online citizenship data of migrants from minority communities namely Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian hailing from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh was introduced in 2018. As per the available data, 295 Hindus and Sikhs from Afghanistan and Pakistan have been granted Indian Citizenship since then.

Use of photo authentication software 'PhotoDNA'

1158. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether investigating agencies are using or intend to use the software 'PhotoDNA' in their investigations;
- (b) the details regarding the working and scope of the software; and
- (c) the details regarding the databases of photographs and images, including social media databases, being accessed while using the software?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANS RAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and prevention, detection, investigation of crime is the responsibility of States. Law Enforcement Agencies utilize various tools, software and technology for investigations.

PhotoDNA is a software tool of Microsoft and details about its working and scope have not been fully evaluated by the Central Government so far.

Citizenship on basis of religion

1159. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any precedent post-independence where Government has granted citizenship on basis of religion, if so, the details thereof;