

SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the concern expressed by Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar.

Provision of citizenship for Tamil immigrant, refugees from Sri Lanka

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, in accordance with Lal Bahadur Shastri -Srimavo Bandaranaike Agreement, 1964 called as Indo-Ceylon Agreement, 1964, it was agreed that 5,25,000 Indians living in Sri Lanka should be repatriated to India. Until 1981, 2,80,000 Indians had repatriated to India, but beyond 1981, these Indian Tamils living in Sri Lanka were not naturalised when they came back. They were kept in the camps. They were suffering in the camps. It was against the agreement. Now, they are living with the refuges. So, they should be naturalised. The Government should take into account all these people who have come under this Agreement and who are kept in the refugee camps. They should be naturalised. Sir, further, these refugees who had come in the year 1983-84, most of the original refuges had died and their families and their children are living in the camps. Their future is bleak. The Government should consider on humanitarian grounds that the small kids born in India could not study, could not have a good future and the State Government is maintaining these camps and spending money on these camps. If they are also naturalised, the Government expenditure will be reduced and they will also have a good future. The Government should consider this. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Was there a recommendation from Tamil Nadu State?

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN: No, Sir, this is my..

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am just trying to find out whether there is a recommendation from the Tamil Nadu State.

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN: Sir, the Tamil Nadu Government had not assessed that. They have not gone into the record.

SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN: Sir, what he says is not correct. They are known as repatriates, not refugees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. You can't answer him, Balasubramoniyanni.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by Shri T. K. S. Elangovan.