

registration of every citizen of India and maintenance of NRIC. The procedure to prepare and maintain NRIC is specified in the aforesaid Rules.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has the power to detain and deport illegally staying foreigners under Section 3 (2) (e) and Section 3(2)(c) of The Foreigners Act, 1946. These powers to detain and deport illegally staying foreign nationals have also been entrusted under Article 258(1) of the Constitution of India to the State Governments. Such illegally staying foreigners are deported to their native country after following due procedure.

#### **New visa category**

2631. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four new categories have been included in the "X-Misc." visa category to cover foreign nationals living in India for at least 15 years who are working in NGOs or doing voluntary work in religious institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has strengthened the 'X-Misc' visa which can now be used by foreign nationals staying for 15 years and above; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (d) As per extant instructions, visa of foreigners who are staying in India for 15 years or more continuously under different categories can be re-categorised as X-Misc. visa and granted extension for 5 years at a time (without any limit) by the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) concerned. These categories include foreigners - (i) who are working in some NGO or religious institution doing voluntary work, (ii) who are staying in Ashrams or Gurukuls or religious institutions leading a spiritual life or practicing yoga, vedic culture etc., (iii) who are stateless persons married to Indian nationals, (iv) who are old Iranian registries living in India for a long time, etc. X-Misc. visa can also be granted to - (i) foreign nationals who own property in the country, (ii) ordinary passport holding dependents of

diplomats/officials assigned to India (including in the UN and Non-UN International Organizations), (iii) foreign nationals applying for visa for a purpose which is not specifically covered under any visa category, etc.

### **Detention centres in the country**

2632. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise list of detention centres that are already constructed, are under construction or have been sanctioned by the Ministry for foreign convicts and those declared as foreigners;

(b) the details of expenditure to be incurred on the same;

(c) the number of people living in already constructed detention centres at present and maximum capacities of the same;

(d) the number of people who have been deported to other countries or released from these detention centres since their construction; and

(e) how many of them have spent more than three years in detention centres without being released or deported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Detention Centres are set up by State Governments/ Union Territory Administration (UTs) as per requirement to detain illegal migrants or convicted foreigners pending deportation to their native country. Instructions have been issued to all State Governments/UTs from time to time for setting up the detention centres. Instructions also indicate that State Governments/ UT Administrations will not require any specific approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs for setting up of such detention centres. Consolidated instructions on the subject contained in Model Detention/Holding Centre Manual have also been circulated by the Government to all States/UT Administrations on 09.01.2019. Government has approved detention centre in Matia, Goalpara, Assam at an estimated cost of ₹ 46,51,20,563/-.

(c) to (e) Central Government is vested with powers to detain and deport a foreign national staying illegally in the country under Section 3(2)(e) and 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. These powers to detain and deport illegally staying foreign