

Second capital for the country

1011. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering it necessary to have a second capital for the country in the south India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Immigration policy

1012. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has an immigration policy; and

(b) if so, what are the main components of the immigration policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) India has put in place robust visa and immigration systems to enable inward and outward movement of all persons including legitimate foreigners like professionals and members of skilled workforce, business persons, students, tourists etc. Entry, stay, movement, transit through and exit of foreign nationals in the country are governed by The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, The Foreigners Act, 1946, The Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, The Citizenship Act, 1955 and The Immigration (Carrier's Liability) Act, 2000 and rules/orders framed thereunder. 21 main categories and 65 sub-categories of visas are granted by India to foreigners depending on the activities to be performed by them in India. The thrust of India's present visa policy is to encourage foreigners to visit India for tourism, improve people to people contact and business relationships, make India a hub of medical/educational /manufacturing activities and to promote various activities in line with the flagship programmes of the Government.

Entry and exit of foreigners into/from India is regulated through authorized