

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:388
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS OF CHAKMAS
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakmas of Arunachal Pradesh have sought intervention of National Human Rights Commission against the quit notice served by the indigenous people lead by the All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union;
- (b) if so, the number of Chakma and Hajang migrants who are alleged to be facing the threat of quit notice;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has prohibited the eviction of Chakmas and Hajangs from Arunachal Pradesh; and
- (d) if so, the steps the Government are taking to protect the eviction of Chakmas and Hajangs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 388 for answer on 19.8.2003 regarding Citizenship of Chakmas.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): According to 1991 Census, the number of Chakmas and Haijongs/Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh is 30062 and 2134 respectively.

(c): The Honourable Supreme Court by its judgement dated the 9th January, 1996 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 720 of 1995 has directed inter alia that individual Chakma/Hajong will not be evicted on the ground that he is not a citizen of India until the Government of India has taken a decision on his application for citizenship.

(d): Committee for Citizenship Rights of the Chakmas of Arunachal Pradesh in their representation dated the 3rd July, 2003 had brought to the notice of the Government news items regarding notices issued by All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union to the Chakmas to leave Arunachal Pradesh and had sought intervention of Government in the matter. After considering the request, Government of Arunachal Pradesh has been advised to ensure that necessary steps are taken to honour the Supreme Court judgement in letter and spirit. The State Government has also been advised to take adequate security measures in this regard.