

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:368

ANSWERED ON:21.02.2006

MIGRATION BY BANGLADESHI NATIONALS

Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Bangladeshi infiltrators have been residing in the North-Eastern areas of the country, particularly in Assam and West Bengal;
- (b) if so, whether these infiltrators have been found possessing ration-cards;
- (c) if so, whether the Supreme Court and the High Court have ordered their eviction several times; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to evict such infiltrators?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d) : A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.368 FOR 21.2.2006 RAISED BY SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA REGARDING MIGRATION BY BANGLADESHI NATIONALS

(a)& (b): The Government is aware of illegal immigration/infiltration from Bangladesh into India. However, as this activity takes place clandestinely, no specific details are available about the magnitude of this illegal infiltration into India. Infiltrators/illegal migrants are not eligible to get ration cards in the country.

(c): High Court of Delhi in the case of Chetan Dutt Vs Union of India (UoI) and others directed the UoI to identify and deport illegal Bangladeshi nationals through Border Security Force. In Writ Petition No.131 of 2000, in the matter of Sarbanand Sonowal Vs UoI, Supreme Court has, inter alia, directed that cases of foreigners who have illegally come from Bangladesh to Assam must be dealt with effectively.

(d): To check illegal migration from Bangladesh, the Government has regularly taken up the issue with the Government of Bangladesh at various fora. Besides, Government has also taken up various measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which, inter alia, include strengthening of BSF and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipment/gadgets; raising of additional battalions of BSF; reduction of gaps between border outposts; intensification of patrolling; accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing; provision of surveillance equipment, etc. State Governments and Union Territories have also been directed to enforce the provisions of Foreigners Act strictly. The powers under Section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals staying in India unauthorisedly have been entrusted to the State Governments and UT Administrations. Besides administrative instructions are also issued to them from time to time to launch special drives to detect the foreign nationals, including Bangladeshi nationals, staying illegally in the country for their immediate deportation.