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Title: Need to provide citizenship to the Hindu and other minority community of Pakistani refugees who took shelter in India after partition in 1947.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (SILCHAR): Our country was partitioned on the basis of two nations' theory. Muslim League demanded partition and got it. Hindus and other minority communities of Pakistan had to leave their ancestral homes being persecuted due to civil disturbance, looting, torturing and harassment and took shelter in India including Assam as the victims of the partition. As per the U.N.O. definition, they are refugees and deserve shelter, rehabilitation and citizenship observing formalities. This is not the case with the Bangladeshi Muslims. They have infiltrated particularly in Assam and other bordering States with ulterior motives. So, both should not be treated at par. The Central Government and the State Government of Assam should make distinction between the two in providing facilities to the needy ones. The Bengali Hindus of East Pakistan (Present Bangladesh) who are the victims of the partition should not be subjected to severe harassment by making them as 'D' voters. Their voting right should not be ceased and those who have been sent to detention camp should be settled properly.

I demand that the refugees should be given Citizenship right as was done in the case of Hindus who came from West Pakistan and settled in Rajasthan and Gujarat. All sorts of harassment on the Bengali Hindus should be stopped.