

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3858  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006  
INFLUX OF TAMIL REFUGEES  
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the number of Sri Lankan Tamils fleeing to India has crossed the 15,000 mark despite a dramatic drop in their arrival in October 2006 ;
- (b) If so, whether the refugees are still coming to Tamil Nadu ;
- (c) If so, the number of refugees enlisted in Tamil Nadu ;
- (d) The steps the Government proposes to take to check the inflow of refugees from Sri Lanka; and
- (e) The steps being taken to send them back ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) to (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) : 67,606 Tamil refugees are enlisted in Tamil Nadu as on 1.11.2006.

(d)&(e) : Government of India`s approach is to discourage their movement but if any refugees do come, they are granted relief on humanitarian grounds (with the ultimate object of repatriation back to Sri Lanka). The refugees are screened by the State Government`s `Q` Branch officials and Revenue officials. They are photographed and issued identity cards. They are accommodated in the transit camp at Mandapam, Ramanathapuram District and in due course shifted to regular camps. Militants, if any, identified, are segregated and lodged in special camps.