

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:509

ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008

EXODUS FROM KASHMIR

Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Nayak Shri Ananta;Rijju Shri Kiren

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of people are migrating out from the Kashmir valley due to threats from separatists;
- (b) if so, the number of persons migrated from valley during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to halt such migrations of people from the valley and to rehabilitate the migrated people including Kashmiri Pundits?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 509 FOR 21ST OCTOBER, 2008

(a)According to information provided by the State Government no such reports about a large number of people migrating from the Kashmir Valley due to threats from separatists.

(b) 21 families belonging to various communities are reported to have migrated from the Kashmir Valley and registered with the Relief Commissioner, Jammu during the last 3 years.

(c)As a result of concerted action by the Police and security forces to contain terrorist activities, the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir has improved significantly over the recent years. However, necessary vigilance continues to be maintained , and security arrangements have been made by way of deployment of security force pickets and patrolling, etc in vulnerable areas, including areas inhabited by numbers of the minority communities.The Government of Jammu & Kashmir provides relief to migrants in the form of cash assistance @ Rs. 1000 per person per month subject to a ceiling of Rs. 4000 per family and free ration which includes 9 kg rice and 2 kg atta per person per month besides 1 kg sugar per family per month. For the families who had migrated earlier in the nineties and have been living in camps in Jammu , out of 5242 new flats to be built, 1024 have been constructed and 4218 are under construction at Jagti and Nagrota and other places to provide better living conditions. In addition, with the aim facilitating the permanent return of the migrants, and their rehabilitation, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, in April 2008, has announced a package of Rs. 1618.00 crore comprising financial assistance, construction/renovation of houses, revival of horticulture/agriculture operations, setting up income generating units, and waiver of interest on loans before migration, besides measures for providing employment to unemployed migrant youths.