

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:562

ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008

OVERSTAYING PAKISTANI NATIONALS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Pakistani nationals who visit India do not return to their country after the expiry of their visa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the number of requests for Indian Citizenship received from such persons during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the number of such requests considered by the Government during the said period;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to amend the citizenship rules in view of the problems being faced by the Hindu families living in Pakistan;
- (f) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (g) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to assist such Hindu families?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per information available, some Pakistani national who visited India have not returned to their country after expiry of their visa. Provisional details in this regard for the last 3 years and in the current year (upto 31/7/2008) are given below:

2005 - 7043
2006 - 7650
2007 - 7404
2008 (upto 31/7/2008) - 9636

(c & d): Foreign nationals including Pakistani nationals who visit India and do not return to their country on expiry of their visa are not eligible for grant of Indian citizenship since they would come under the definition of illegal migrant in terms of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

(e) to (g): Members of the minority community in Pakistan (Hindus and Sikhs) residing in India on Long Term Visa (LTV), subject to fulfillment of certain conditions, are eligible for grant of Indian citizenship after a stay of 7 years in India. There is no proposal for amending the Citizenship Rules in this regard at this stage.