GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5627 ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013 TRAFFICKING IN SRI LANKAN REFUGEES Singh Shri Uday Pratap

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports that Sri Lankan refugees residing in Tamil Nadu are being trafficked on the pretext of giving Australian citizenship once they reach there;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

- (a)& (b): Yes, Madam. As per inputs provided by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, there are reports that Sri Lankan Tamil refugees are being trafficked on the pretext of sending them to Australia. The details of the cases reported during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-I.
- (c): The steps taken by the State Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard are:
- # Alerts are given, whenever information about human trafficking comes to notice from other agencies;
- # A notice was exhibited in the notice boards in all the refugee settlements as a part of awareness campaign to safeguard the life and properties of Sri Lankan Tamils.
- # All Commissioners of Police/Superintendents Police were informed to take action against the repeated offenders/masterminds/agents of human trafficking under NSA.
- # Coastal Security Group Police officers recently launched awareness campaign in all the refugee settlements all over Tamil Nadu urging them not to fall for illegal sailing.