GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4569
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015
CRIME BY ILLEGAL BANGLADESHI IMMIGRANTS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants residing in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there are reports of the said immigrants being involved in criminal activities in the country;
- (c) if so, the details of such cases reported in the country during the last three years and the current year, Sfate/UT-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to check the infiltration and illegal stay of Bangladeshi immigrants in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a): There are reports of Bangladeshi nationals having entered the country without valid travel documents. Since entry of such Bangladeshi nationals into the country is clandestine and surreptitious, it is not possible to have accurate data of such Bangladeshi Nationals living in various parts of the country. A number of Bangladeshi nationals who have entered into India on valid travel documents have been found to be overstaying. In absence of an authentic/ exhaustive survey, no authentic data of illegal immigrants currently staying in the country is available. However, during 2012-2014, approx. 18,000 Bangladeshi nationals were arrested in India for violating provisions of Immigration Control Rules & Regulations and under various sections of the Foreigners Act. In the bordering areas, during the year 2012-2014 (upto Novem- ber), 986 Bangladeshi nationals were apprehen- ded by Border Security Force for crossing over to Indian territory wherein 689 Bangladeshi nationals were found innocent and handed over to Border Guard Bangladesh whereas 297 Bangladeshi nationals handed over to concerned Police station for further legal action against them,
- b) & (c): Instances of violation of the law and involvement in activities by such Bangladeshi nationals have been reported. Registration of cases and action thereon comes within the purview of State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations concerned. Statistical data of this nature are not centrally maintained. Law enforcement agencies are instructed to maintain a strict vigil OT the activities of such Bangladeshis in the country and take appropriate action.
- (d): Central Government Is vested with powers to deport a foreign national illegally staying in the country under section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. The powers to identify and deport such illegally staying foreign nationals have also been delegated to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government of India to manage the Indo-Bangladesh border. These include construction of border fence and border roads in strategic land border areas. A revised procedure for detection and deportation of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants has also been set out and circulated to State Government/ Union Territory Administrat- ions In November, 2009, which has been partially modified En February, 2011, and further modified in February, 2013. The procedure includes sending back then and there, the illegal immigrants who are intercepted at the border while entering India unau- thorisedly. Thirty six (36) Foreigner Tribunals are set up for detection of foreigners/illegal immigrants in the State of Assam. Besides, additional 64 numbers of Foreigners Tribunals have been sanctioned by Ministry of Home Affairs for speedier disposal of cases pending with the Tribunals