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Title : Regarding need to expedite the process of ousting illegal infiltrators from Bangladesh settled in Orissa.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, I draw your attention towards the continuous stream of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants arriving through the sea route and settling on the coast of Orissa. This is not only a major concern for the State of Orissa but Centre should equally be alarmed. There is no doubt that aliens cannot be allowed to settle on our land with impunity.

Recently, Government of Orissa went on a drive to identify and deport illegal immigrants. This is a laudable step. But the manner in which the authorities have brought about their task has cast a shadow. Around three districts are affected by the Bangladeshi will exodees. I have been informed that the language being Bengali, many Bangladeshis illegally emigrate into Orissa, change their name to a Hindu one and try to enjoy the political protection. Some weeks back, the Centre has asked the State Government to review its decision. Meanwhile, there are reports of fresh batches of entrants arriving in the coastal districts of Orissa. As the infiltrators clear precious mangrove forests, set up colonies, fish in banned waters, lay prawn gheris and come in conflict with locals, the entire ecosystem and the social system of the region faces problem.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to expedite the process of ousting infiltrators. I would like to make it clear that since partition, no refugees were ever settled in the coastal districts of Orissa. I would urge upon the Government to curb infiltration and a systematic and just process of identification of illegal settlers be started at the earliest.