



Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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Q NO.28 SUPPORT TO UPCOUNTRY TAMILS IN SRI LANKA

April 23, 2015

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.28
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.04.2015

SUPPORT TO UPCOUNTRY TAMILS IN SRI LANKA

28. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has promised to support plantation or upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka;
- (b) whether Government has received a proposal for building twenty thousand houses for plantation or upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any decision on the construction of above said houses for plantation and upcountry Tamils in Sri Lanka?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) As part of its development cooperation with Sri Lanka, Government of India has been assisting in the implementation of a number of projects in that country. Many of these projects benefit plantation/upcountry Tamils, including in the fields of housing, education, vocational training, health, and community development initiatives. Government of India has recently received a request for constructing twenty thousand new houses for plantation/upcountry Tamils and upgrading thirty thousand existing line houses, as well as provision of drinking water facilities and construction of latrines, at an estimated cost of US\$ 260 million. The on-going flagship Indian Housing Project, which involves construction of fifty thousand houses in Sri Lanka, envisages construction of four thousand of these houses in plantation/upcountry areas. A decision on the new housing request will be taken after the on-going project is completed.



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