GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO-152

ANSWERED ON-03.12.2014

Citizenship to PIOs from Afghanistan and Pakistan

152 . Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa

(a) whether Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) migrated from Afghanistan and Pakistan, now settled in the country, have sought Indian citizenship;

(b) the number of such persons living in the country;

(c) whether their request is pending with the Central Government; and

(d) the reasons for delay in taking a final decision in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRTY OF HOME AFFIARS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

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STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 152 FOR 3.12.2014

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir, Some of the persons migrated from Afghanistan and Pakistan who are eligible for grant of Indian Citizenship have applied for Indian Citizenship but no such data about the persons who have crossed over from Pakistan and Afghanistan and living in the country is maintained in this Ministry.

However, considering the difficulties being faced by such Persons, a Special Task Force has been formed in September 2014 to facilitate Pakistani and Afghani nationals for registering themselves as Indian citizens. The process for online application has also been relaxed for these migrants. So far 5223 Pakistani nationals and 1481 Afghani have been granted Indian Citizenship during the period from 1.1.2003 to 20.11.2014. From the year 2011 online system of filing application for Citizenship has been introduced.

As on date, as per date available online; 672 applications from Afghanistan national and 1114 from Pakistan national are pending at different stage of processing for grant of Indian Citizenship.
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