

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*69

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH APRIL, 2015/VAISAKHA 9, 1937 (SAKA)

SETTLEMENTS IN WHICH TIBETANS ARE LIVING

*69. DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the state-wise total number of settlements in which Tibetans are living in the country and their population;
- (b) the details of benefits being extended to Tibetans under the current Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy;
- (c) whether Government has decided to extend benefits of certain Government sponsored programmes/schemes to Tibetans;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government for proper rehabilitation of Tibetan refugees?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *69 FOR 29.04.2015.

(a) The state-wise total number of Tibetan Settlements are given as under:

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of Settlements
1.	Karnataka	6
2.	Maharashtra	1
3.	Odisha	1
4.	Chattisgarh	1
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
6.	Sikkim	2
7.	West Bengal	2
8.	Uttarakhand	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	9
	Total	45

As per 2009 figure, the total Tibetan population living in the country are approximately 1,10,095. Major concentration of the Tibetan Refugees is in Karnataka (44,468), Himachal Pradesh (21,980), Arunachal Pradesh (7,530), Uttarakhand (8,545), West Bengal (5,785) and Jammu & Kashmir (6,920).

(b) to (e) The then Ministry of Rehabilitation had undertaken a number of measures for rehabilitation of Tibetan Refugees in different parts of the country. The Tibetan Refugees have been provided agricultural land on lease basis by the concerned State Governments. Handicrafts centres were set up at Dalhousie, Dharamshala, Shimla and Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Darjeeling (West Bengal), Rajpur (Uttarakhand).

During various interactions with the Tibetan representatives, it was found that the level of assistance/facilities extended by the various State Governments are not uniform. The Government of India, therefore, framed the Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy, 2014 to provide a uniform guideline demarcating the facilities to be extended to the Tibetan refugees living within the jurisdiction of each State Government. The details of benefits to be extended by the State Governments under the current Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy are given as under:-

- (i) The concerned State Governments must necessarily sign a lease document for the land occupied by the Tibetan Refugees. Such lease documents should be signed for a period of 20 years or till it is revoked/cancelled.
- (ii) Rent Tenancy Certificate must be issued by the concerned State Governments.
- (iii) The land under the occupation by Tibetan Refugees should not be disturbed.
- (iv) The State Governments have been advised to extend the benefits of the respective State Government Schemes and also the Centrally sponsored schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and National Food Security Act (NFSA), Indira AwasYojana (IAY), National Rural Livelihood Mission(NRLM), Rajiv AwasYojna (RAY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) etc.

- (v) The State Governments have been advised to extend the infrastructural facilities and basic amenities like Roads, Electrification, Drinking Water Schemes in or around the Tibetan Settlements.
- (vi) The State Governments have been advised to undertake skill up-gradation and training programmes for the Tibetan Refugees.
- (vii) State Governments have been requested to give permission to the Tibetan Refugees to run Tibetan Bazaars to trade in Tibetan Artefacts, handlooms and handicrafts.
- (viii) Tibetan refugees should be entitled for flood/famine relief as is extended to the Indian Citizens.
- (ix) Qualified professionals from amongst the Tibetan Refugees may be permitted to pursue/take jobs in private and non-Government Sectors in any field for which they are professionally qualified.
- (x) The State Governments have been advised to allow the Tibetans to undertake such economic activities as they may desire and to that extent trade licenses/permission be given.
