

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.380**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST DECEMBER, 2021/ 10 AGRAHAYANA, 1943 (SAKA)

STATUS OF AFGHAN REFUGEES IN INDIA

380. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government maintains data on refugee foreign nationals residing in India, and if not, reasons therefor;**
- (b) the steps Government is taking to aid Afghan asylum seekers in India, and if not, reasons therefor;**
- (c) the details of legislation, policy and any schemes undertaken to ensure safety and standards of living of refugees in India, in absence of UN's Refugee Convention, and if not, reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the State-wise/UT-wise details on asylum seekers from Afghanistan living in India and State-wise/UT-wise details of year of migration, current area/place of residence, number of emergency e-visas issued and grounds for issue of emergency visa?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (d): India is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereon. All foreign nationals (including Asylum seekers) are governed by the provisions contained in the Foreigners Act, 1946, The Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and The Citizenship Act, 1955 and rules and orders made there under. The data of foreign nationals who enter into the country

without valid travel documents in a surreptitious and clandestine manner, claiming to be refugees or asylum seekers is not maintained centrally.

In view of the prevailing situation in Afghanistan, the Government of India has started an 'e-Emergency X-Misc visa' for a period of 6 months for Afghan nationals. Further, Stay visa is granted to Afghan nationals staying in India keeping in view present situation in that country. Presently, 4,557 Afghan nationals are staying in India on Stay Visa after extension of their visas. As on 24.11.2021, 200 e-Emergency X-Misc visas have been issued.
