GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1477

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 04TH MARCH, 2020/PHALGUNA 14, 1941 (SAKA)

DEPORTATION OF ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

†1477. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any policy to deport illegal migrants to neighbouring countries *viz.* Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Afghanistan etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of illegal migrants deported to such countries during last three years and current year, so far?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) Central Government has been vested with powers under Section 3(2)(e) and 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detain and deport foreign nationals staying illegally in the country. Under Section 5 of The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, Central Government may also by an Order direct the removal of any foreigner from India who enters India without passport & visa. These powers of the Central Government have also been entrusted under Article 258(1) of the Constitution of India to all the State Governments since 1958. Further, under Article 239(1) of the Constitution of India, the

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Administrators of the Union Territories have also been directed to discharge the functions of the Central Government relating to the aforesaid powers.

Therefore, detection of illegal foreigners/ migrants and deportation to their native country has been a continuous and on-going statutory process under the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920. Illegal foreigners whose nationality needs to be verified have to await deportation. Till their nationality is verified and travel documents are issued, such foreigners may have to be detained in a holding/detention centres by the Competent Authority of State Government/UT Administration.

Ministry of Home Affairs has issued consolidated instructions regarding deportation/repatriation of foreign nationals to all States & UTs vide letters dated 24.04.2014 and 01.07.2019.

(c) A statement related to the number of foreigners deported to these countries by the Officials of Bureau of Immigration during the last three years upto 31stDecember, 2019, is enclosed.

ANNEXURE RS.US.Q.NO. 1477 FOR 04.03.2020

Country- wise deportation of foreigners by Foreigners Regional Registration Offices (FRROs) during the period 2017-2019

| Country | No. of Foreigners deported | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|------|------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Afghanistan | 72 | 33 | 142 |
| Bangladesh | 51 | 445 | 299 |
| Myanmar | 7 | 38 | 16 |
| Pakistan | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Total | 131 | 516 | 462 |