

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6307

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH MAY, 2015/VAISAKHA 15, 1937 (SAKA)

REFUGEE DETERMINATION SYSTEM

6307. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

- (a) Whether India has a legal framework and determination system for refugees;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) The number of refugees and asylum seekers in the country at present, country-wise;
- (d) The facilities being provided to the refugees and asylum seekers in the country; and
- (e) The views of the Government regarding the refugee determination system followed by the UNHCR?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) There is no national law on refugees at present. Only Standard Operating Procedure are issued by Ministry of Home Affairs to deal with foreign nationals in India, who claim to be refugees.

(c). As per information available, the number of Afghan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Stateless persons who claim to be refugees and living in India are as under:-

Afghan	:10340
Myanmar	:4621
Sri Lanka	:101896
Tibetans	: 110095

(d) Long Term Visas are granted to refugees based on existing guidelines after due security verification etc which permits them for facilities at par with other foreigners such as – employment in the private sector, undertake studies in any academic institution.

(e) Refugees are registered under the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] who meets regularly with all refugees and their representatives to discuss their concerns and jointly look for solutions to their problems as much as possible. In very exceptional circumstances, UNHCR provides individual assistance that may include monthly stipends or resettlement to a third country. India is not a signatory to the 1951 United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees.
