

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2443**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH MARCH, 2021/ PHALGUNA 26, 1942 (SAKA)

STATELESS PERSONS FROM SRI LANKA

**2443 SHRI KUMAR KETKAR:
SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of stateless Sri Lankan individuals in India;**
- (b) the details of measures planned or taken by Government to identify unregistered stateless individuals from Sri Lanka in India;**
- (c) whether steps are being taken to provide additional routes for Sri Lankan stateless individuals to acquire Indian citizenship as done for certain communities through the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per the data provided by the Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-resident Tamils, Government of Tamil Nadu, 58,843 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees are staying in 108 camps in Tamil Nadu. Also there are 34,135 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees staying as Non camp refugees in Tamil Nadu who are registered with the local Police. Besides, as per the available information, 54 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees were staying in the refugee camp at Malkangiri, Odisha.

(c) & (d) Citizenship of India is governed by the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and rules made thereunder. Any foreigner, including a Sri Lankan citizen, may acquire Indian citizenship by registration or naturalization after fulfilling the eligibility criteria laid down in the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the rules made thereunder.
