

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-867
ANSWERED ON- 09/02/2023

REHABILITATION OF INDIAN ORIGIN SRI LANKAN TAMILS

867. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the schemes of the Central Government for the rehabilitation of Indian origin Sri Lankan Tamils, the details thereof;
- (b) the total amount of funds sanctioned and disbursed for the rehabilitation of Indian origin Sri Lankan Tamils in the country of Sri Lanka, the details thereof;
- (c) the project or scheme-wise details of the funds disbursed; and
- (d) the project or scheme-wise list of beneficiaries of such assistance rendered by India, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a to d) Indian-origin Tamils in Sri Lanka, who are mainly concentrated in the Central, Uva, Sabragamuwa and Southern Provinces, have benefitted substantially from schemes undertaken by Government of India (GoI) as grant assistance to Sri Lanka.

India's total development portfolio in Sri Lanka is nearly US\$ 4 billion, out of which the grant component is US\$ 600 million. GoI's commitment to grant projects that are of benefit to the Indian-origin Tamil community in Sri Lanka is about US\$ 100 million. Under the GoI's flagship Housing Project, which has an overall commitment of more than US\$ 200 million in grant to construct 60,000 housing units, 14,000 houses units of the total are in areas with concentration of Indian-origin Tamil population.

In addition to the construction of houses, the grant projects undertaken by the GoI are in the areas of education, reasearch and training, health and medical care, arts, sports and culture, among others. Out of 16 ongoing grant projects in Sri Lanka, 5 are of direct benefit to the India-origin Tamil community.

Government assesses the needs and undertakes the projects/schemes in consultation with the Government of Sri Lanka. All the projects are closely monitored by the Government to ensure that the assistance reaches the vulnerable and identified people.
