

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1193
ANSWERED ON - 05/12/2024

GROWING NUMBER OF ASYLUM SEEKERS FROM INDIA

1193. SHRI SANJAY RAUT

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that many Indians are seeking Asylum in various foreign countries particularly USA, UK and Canada;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise data since last five years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the countries that have received the highest number of asylum applications from Indian citizens, and the reasons that have been cited in these cases;
- (d) the percentage of these asylum claims which have been accepted, and what this indicates about the situation in India; and
- (e) whether Government has engaged in bilateral or multilateral dialogues to curb irregular migration and asylum-seeking trends?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to e) Accurate data regarding the number of asylum applications and the actual number of people granted asylum or the grounds on which asylum is sought or granted is not available, as the foreign governments concerned cite inability to share such data due to privacy and data protection laws.

The Government of India believes that asylum seekers, while applying for asylum to a foreign government, denigrate the system in India to obtain personal gains despite the fact that India, being a democratic country, provides avenues for everyone to redress their grievances lawfully. Our Missions and Posts abroad regularly liaise with the local authorities and upon verification of their identity and nationality extend necessary consular assistance and issue necessary travel document to facilitate their return to India.

The Government has concluded Migration & Mobility Partnership Agreements (MMPAs) and Labour Mobility Agreements (LMAs) with several countries. Cooperation to stop illegal migration and procedures for return of illegal migrants are important elements of these agreements.
