

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3813**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 25, 1941 (SAKA)**

**STATUS OF CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT BILL**

**3813. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) the status of the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016;**

**(b) whether the Government is planning to reintroduce the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016 or its modified form in any manner in the Parliament at any time in the future; and**

**(c) the “Locus Standi” of the Gazette notification of the Government dated October 24, 2018 in the matter of Section 16 of the Citizenship Act, 1955 in relation to the proposed Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b): The Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 was introduced in Lok Sabha in 2016. It was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. The Committee submitted its report on 07.01.2019 to Parliament. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 was taken into consideration and passed by Lok Sabha on 08.01.2019. It was pending for consideration and passing by the Rajya Sabha. Consequent to dissolution of 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, this Bill has lapsed.**

**(c): The basic object of The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 was to facilitate grant of Indian citizenship to members of six minority communities who migrated from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh without valid travel documents or the validity of whose documents had expired. The Citizenship Act, 1955 treats such persons as “illegal migrants” and disentitles them from applying for Indian citizenship. The Gazette Notification of October 24, 2018, on the other hand, was issued by the Central Government under section 16 of the Citizenship Act, 1955 to facilitate expeditious grant of Indian citizenship only to the legal migrants from the above mentioned six minority communities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan if they fulfill the eligibility criteria. This notification does not amend the provisions of The Citizenship Act, 1955 or the rules made thereunder. The notification of October 24, 2018 and the lapsed Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 thus deal with different categories of immigrants from the six minority communities of Afghanistan, Bangladesh & Pakistan.**

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