GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3605

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER, 2019/ AGRAHAYANA 19, 1941 (SAKA)

APPREHENSION OVER NRC/CITIZENSHIP BILL

3605. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an apprehension among the muslims in the country regarding the NRC and the Citizenship Bill; and
- (b) if not, the reasons why muslim refugees have been excluded from the Citizenship Bill?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Preparation of National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC) is governed by the provisions of section 14A of The Citizenship Act, 1955 and The Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003. Section 14A of The Citizenship Act, 1955 provides for compulsory registration of every citizen of India and maintenance of NRIC. Citizenship of India is acquired as per the provision of The Citizenship Act, 1955. NRIC is a register containing details of Indian citizens.

However, the objective of The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 is to enable acquisition of Indian Citizenship by migrants belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian communities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan, who have taken shelter in India due to persecution on ground of religion or fear of such persecution in their countries and who have entered India on or before 31st December, 2014 without valid documents or validity of their documents has expired.
