

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1360**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 09<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021/ MAGHA 20, 1942 (SAKA)**

**SRI LANKAN REFUGEES**

**1360. SHRI M. SELVARAJ:**

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

- (a) the total number of Sri Lankan Citizens residing as refugees in the country;**
- (b) the details of measures planned or taken by the Government to identify unregistered Stateless citizens from Sri Lanka;**
- (c) whether steps are being taken to provide additional routes for Sri Lankan citizens 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, Govt. 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 but they have registered with the local Police. Besides this, 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.**