
UNIT 80 TIBETANS, SRI LANKANS, BANGLADESHIS AND AFGHANS

- 80.1 Learning Objectives
- 80.2 Introduction
- 80.3 Refugees communities in India
- 80.4 Select Cases
 - 80.4.1 Sri Lankans
 - 80.4.2 Bangladeshi
 - 80.4.3 Afghans
- 80.5 Socio-Economic Conditions
- 80.6 Challenges of Rehabilitation
- 80.7 Let Us Sum Up
- 80.8 Key Words
- 80.9 References and Select Readings
- 80.10 Check your Progress Possible Answer

80.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying this unit, you will be able to:

- Understand the socio-economic profile of refugee communities living in India
- Livelihood and other Issues and challenges faces by them

80.2 INTRODUCTION

India has several refugee communities who are settled since decades ago now constitute very vibrant diaspora. Some of the major refugee groups are: Tibetans, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankans and Afghans. They have been scattered in various parts of India often depending upon their socio-cultural and ecological background. This unit will provide you an overview of these refugee communities and current issues and challenges.

80.3 REFUGEE COMMUNITIES IN INDIA

In common parlance, the terms ‘refugees’ and ‘exile’ have been used interchangeable in debate. However, both the terms derive different meaning and understanding in academic usage. As per the conventional understanding, ‘A refugee can be said a displaced person who has been forced to cross national boundaries and who cannot allow to return home safely by that country.’ There are many synonyms used interchangeably for this term such as, exile, asylum seeker, displaced or forced migrate and so on. However, they are certainly carrying different forms of refugees.

The United Nations High Commission Report (UNHCR) recognizes refugees in 1951 as ‘who are outside their country of nationality or habitual residence and unable to return there owing to serious and indiscriminate threats to life, physical integrity or freedom resulting from generalized violence or events seriously disturbing public order.’

India is neither a party to the 1951 Convention on Refugees nor the 1967 Protocol. Due to the lack of specific refugee legislation, India has led the government to adopt an ad hoc approach to different refugee influxes. The status of refugees in India is governed mainly by political and administrative decisions rather than any codified model of conduct (Report of Refugee Populations in India, 2007). The ad hoc nature of the Government’s approach has led to varying treatment of different refugee groups. Some groups are granted a full range of benefits including legal residence, employment and legal assistance while the others are not treated at par.

In India, the legal status of refugees is governed mainly by the Foreigners Act of 1946 regulates the entry and stay of foreigners in India. It requires all foreigners to register with the local police if they are in the country for longer than 180 days. The Home Ministry reports that 352,000 foreigners were registered in India as of December 31, 2007 which was just 0.03 percent of the total population. In the mid-2014, the total number of refugees were over 2,00,000, a period that saw over 5.5 million people displaced worldwide mainly due to war and violence across large swathes of the Middle East and Africa (Reported in ‘The Hindu, 9 January 2015’) (<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-home-to-200000-refugees-in-first-half-of-2014-unhcr/article6771040.ece>).

As of 31 January 2022, more than 46,000 refugees and asylum-seekers are registered with UNHCR India, mainly from Myanmar and Afghanistan.

Refugees in India, 2020

Sl.No	Refugee and Asylum Seekers	Total No of Population
1	Tibetan	108,005
2	Sri Lankan	95,230
3	Myanmese	21,049
4	Afghanese	16,333
5	Other	3,477

Source: Govt of India (Tibetan and Sri Lankan refugees)

Source: UNHCR (2020) for Others

80.4 SELECT CASES

The flow of people from Tibet, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan is considered as the form of migration due to their poor socio-economic conditions and political conflict. They are commonly taken as refugees, exile diaspora, displaced communities respectively in Indian context. Let us discuss a select cases.

80.4.1 The Tibetans

Tibetan refugees are found in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh, Chandragiri in Gajapati District of Odisha, Delhi -Majnu ka tilla, Bylakuppe Tibetan Settlement (BTS in Mysore district, Karnataka etc. Various sources put together the population of Tibetans in exile are around 1.5 lakh in India. Approximately, 80,000 Tibetans who arrived in the first and largest wave received resident permits. India has granted permission for their 'Govt-in-exile' which is known as Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) located at Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh.

The exile of Tibetans was begun during 1950s which has been a most controversial incident of Tibetan history during the invasion of China. The political contest with China brought changes in the socio-cultural scenario of Tibet and, thus, resulted in a large number of Tibetan exodus to many other countries especially neighboring country like India. There were two large waves of Tibetan migration to India. The first wave started in 1959 when over 85,000 refugees followed Dalai Lama, the religious guru of Tibetans. They established a community in the town of Dharamsala in the northern part of Himachal Pradesh. India granted refugee status to the Dalai Lama when he fled Tibet in 1959 and permitted him to set up a government-in-exile in Dharamsala. Dharamsala is also home for the Tibetan government-in-exile, known as the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA). The Indian government allows the Central Tibetan Administration autonomy in public education, for example, but does not officially recognize it as a government.

Today Tibetans are engaged in host of activities that range from travel and tourism, retailing in garments, religious activities, agriculture etc.



Source: Tibetanjournal.com

Majnu Ka Tila is one of the locations where the Tibetans settled since 1960s with a total of 2000 people.

Tibetans, Sri Lankans,
Bangladeshis and
Afghans

While the Tibetans are mostly engaged in agriculture and allied activities in Chandragiri, Odisha, and Bylakuppe Tibetan Settlement (BTS in Mysore district, Karnataka etc the same communities in Dharamsala and Delhi are engaged in garment business, travel and tours, retail shops that includes traditional handicrafts such as Tibetan incense, Tibetan knives, Tibetan carpets, Tibetan rugs, Thangka paintings, an etc. In Chandragiri Odisha the Tibetan communities are engaged in more modern form of agriculture with integrated livestock such as cow.

Government of India has formalized the Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy 2014. This policy tries to a uniform policy in all states where Tibetans reside, and normalise access to various Indian government schemes and benefits. Matters concerning land lease, and extending Central and States benefits, are also specified. These benefits include in the area of education and employment, Indira Awas Yojana, MGNREGA, National Rural Health Mission, Banking, providing access to basic amenities like the citizens of India.

80.4.2 Sri Lankan

Sri Lankan immigrants are resided in southern part of India such as Tamil Nadu and some parts of Kerala and are small in numbers. Some of Sri Lankan Tamils are resided in the eastern regions of Orissa, Karnataka and Pondicherry. They are partly who migrated to India and their descendants and mostly refugees from Sri Lanka because of the recently concluded Sri Lankan Civil War. In India, there is also a small population of Sinhalese people which accounts a number of around 3,500 and they are mostly resided in Tamil Nadu and Delhi.

According to the information shared by Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Odisha, as on 01 January 2016, there are 64,144 refugees from Sri Lanka staying in 107 ordinary camps in Tamil Nadu and 22 refugees staying in 1 camp in Odisha. In addition, 36,861 refugees are staying outside the camps in Tamil Nadu after registering themselves at the nearest police station (Lok Sabha Question-Answer: <http://164.100.47.194/Loksabha/Questions/Qministrysearch.aspx>).

Sri Lankan migrants fled to India broadly in three phases. Sri Lankan Tamils began fleeing to India due to aftermath of the civil war in 1983 which broke out between the government and the Tamil Tigers, who wanted an independent Tamil state on the island (Chahal, 2014). During this period, around 134,053 Sri Lankan Tamils arrived in India. The first repatriation took place after the signing of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord in 1987 and between 24th December 1987 and on 31st August, 1989, around 25,585 refugees and non-camp Sri Lankan nationals returned to Sri Lanka (Aravind, 1995).

The second wave began with the start of Eelam War II after 25th August 1989, where 1,22,000 Sri Lankan Tamils came to Tamil Nadu. On 20th January, 1992, around 54,188 refugees were voluntarily repatriated to Sri Lanka after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, until March 1995. Eelam War III commenced in April 1995 starting the third wave of refugees (Aravind, 1995).

Almost 22,000 Sri Lankans fled to India in 2006 due to renewed fighting between the government and Tamil Tigers.

In the third phase, about 73,000 Sri Lankan refugees fled to India as of late 2008, who were living in 117 camps across southern India, mainly in Tamil Nadu (Naujoks, 2009). Soon after, the emigration of refugees has stopped due to cease fire agreement.

The Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) has extended benefits of all its welfare schemes to refugees staying in various camps in Tamil Nadu for registered Sri Lankan refugees, including free education up to Class XII, increased monthly allowance to all registered refugees and their children, dry ration from PDS system, laptops, computers, books, bus passes, etc. The Ministry of Home Affairs also releases funds to Government of Tamil Nadu for providing relief assistance to the Sri Lankan refugees.

India is engaged in implementation of multiple developmental assistance projects in Sri Lanka, which are of benefit to the Tamils returning to Sri Lanka.

India has supported efforts to preserve Sri Lanka's character as a multiethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious society in which all citizens, including the Sri Lankan Tamil community, can live in equality, safety and harmony, and prosper and fulfill their aspirations within a united Sri Lanka.

Indian developmental projects are in the sectors such as infrastructure including railways & housing, health, education, sports facilities, livelihood support and vocational training, agriculture, fisheries, handicrafts, water supply etc.

80.4.3 Bangladeshi

Bangladeshi immigrants are one of the predominant refugee communities in India. According to Census 2001, the estimated number of Bangladeshi migrants in India were 3.1 million residing in India. The number of Bangladeshi migrants are increasing in India. Bangladesh has an adjacent border with India and since its establishment of a separate state, they have been migrated to India for work-opportunities and livelihoods. Due to illegal migration, they are not given refugee identity and many time are not allowed to provide preventive measures, development policies and protection rights in India.

The flow of migration from Bangladesh was recorded during the Bangladesh Liberation War. During that period, the Indo-Bangladesh border was opened to allow Bengalis to move there to find out safe shelter in India. The state governments of India including West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura had established refugee camps for them alongside border. During 1971 Bangladesh genocides, estimated 10 million Bangladeshi refugees fled to India causing financial problem and political instability.

For many decades, India has received a considerable number of unauthorized migrants from Bangladesh. According to a survey conducted by the Indian Statistical Institute (2002-2003), most of the Bangladeshi migrants have economic reasons for migration, such as poverty, lack of employment opportunities and political instability (migrationpolicy.org).

80.3.4 Afghani

Afghan refugees in India have become one of the popular refugee communities in current era. Thousands of people from Afghanistan migrated to India in the last few years and mostly settled in New Delhi and Hyderabad, according to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (Srinivas, 2015). The estimated number of Afghan refugees registered in UNHCR was around 10,196 in 2016. Most of the recent refugees are Hindu and Sikh refugees who fled the Taliban regime and political instability in Afghanistan.

The origin of Afghans in India has a long history dated back since medieval period. During the late 13th century, the invaders and perpetrators had intruded and ruled over India. With formation of an empire of Khilji dynasty, the sovereignty of Afghans was recorded in India (Chaurasia, 2002). During 15th century, the Pashtun ruler, Babur invaded and ruled over Northern part of India and thus Mughal Empire was formed in India (Chaurasia, 2002). Subsequently, the Islam had expanded with the succession of the Mughal Kings in India. Therefore, there are hundreds of communities in India who traced their ancestries back to Pashtun, Pathan forefathers.

In the recent history, the Afghani migrants are accounted for the purposes of business and trade, education, marriage and informal activities. The immigration of Afghans in India was seen since 1980s. An estimated 60,000 Afghans fled to India after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979 (Report Refugee Population in India, 2007). Subsequently, thousands of Afghans came when the Taliban took power in 1992. Since 2001, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has helped some 500 return and 650 to resettle to third countries, mostly to the United States, Canada and Australia. In 2007, around 9,200 Afghanistan refugees (92% of them Hindu or Sikh) were living in India, according to UNHCR (Report Refugee Population in India, 2007). More recently, the Indian government has agreed to naturalize many of these Hindu and Sikh Afghans who have lived in India since 1979. In addition, UNHCR reports that currently, about 4,000 asylum seekers, mostly from Afghanistan and Burma, are in the process of refugee certification.

There are many factors responsible for the migration from Afghanistan. Due to political instability and situations of war has resulted the cause of insecurities for human beings. They are residing in host countries as refugees. Furthermore, the growing limitation of educational facilities and employment-opportunities have resulted to force people to migrate outside country. The migrants from Afghanistan are aspire to get better education and employment opportunities. In India, they are engaged in several informal economic activities including working under small enterprises, shops and restaurants. There are also a few number of students who have enrolled in universities and higher education institutions for education.

The Indian government has issued most Afghan refugees with valid residence permits. This affords them a degree of legal protection, which allows them to stay in the country despite not having valid passports. Attaining residence permits has been more difficult for the newer arrivals that arrived in India between 2004 and 2007.

Check Your Progress 1:

1. What do you mean by Refugees? How do you differentiate between Refugees and Migrants?

.....
.....
.....
.....

2. Mention the reason for Tibetan exile in India.

.....
.....
.....
.....

80.5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In this section, we will go into brief socio-economic conditions of the migrants from Tibet, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghan respectively. For any migrant community, the issues of their socio-economic survival have become significant in the host country.

The Sri Lankan refugees in India are generally resided in refugee camps scattered across the state. The refugees worked as unskilled labour in the informal sector to supplement their incomes. The Indian Government provides basic medical care and education for school-age Sri Lankan children as well as subsidized food grain for the camps' inhabitants. Despite these provisions, conditions in the camps are generally poor with insufficient health and sanitary facilities available for the refugee population.

According to the information shared by Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Odisha, as on 01 January 2016, there are 64,144 refugees from Sri Lanka staying in 107 ordinary camps in Tamil Nadu and 22 refugees staying in 1 camp in Odisha. In addition, 36,861 refugees are staying outside the camps in Tamil Nadu after registering themselves at the nearest police station.



In context of their housing facilities, the government of India is undertaking a project to construct 50,000 houses in Sri Lanka at a cost of INR 1372 crore. Under the pilot phase of the Project, 1,000 houses were constructed in Northern Province of Sri Lanka through an Indian Contractor. These houses were handed over to beneficiaries in July 2012.

The second phase, to construct or repair 45,000 houses in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, is being implemented using an innovative owner driven model, wherein the Government of India arranges technical support and financial assistance for the owner-beneficiaries to undertake the construction/repair of their houses themselves. Financial assistance of Sri Lankan Rs. 550,000 per beneficiary (Sri Lankan Rs. 250,000 in case of repair) is released in stages, and transferred directly into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries by the High Commission of India. As of 3 August, 44,200 houses have been constructed or repaired under the second phase.

Under the third phase, the remaining 4000 houses, to be undertaken in the Central and Uva provinces for Indian Origin Tamils, the construction of 1134 houses has begun. The Government of Sri Lanka is to identify land for the remaining 2866 houses.

Indian government encourages voluntary repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka. Government of India has emphasised to Government of Sri Lanka that a conducive environment should be created for Sri Lankan refugees to return to Sri Lanka on a voluntary basis. Government of Sri Lanka has been extending facilities, including education, to Sri Lankan citizens returning after staying as refugees in any country, including in India.

Bangladeshi refugees are generally resided in many parts of India predominantly Eastern Bengal, Kolkata, North Eastern region, Delhi and Bengaluru. The illegal migration from Bangladesh is the major threat for the national security as well as smuggling of the people. In the recent past, the smuggling women and children from Bangladesh have become challenging for India. The children and women are brought in India under illegal sources and forced to work as prostitutes, servants and construction workers under very meagre wages and torturous conditions. The illegal Bangladeshi generally find work in the informal sector on cheap wages, often as domestic helpers, construction labourers, rickshaw pullers and rag pickers. There are many police records of physical violence, torture and rape with the Bangladeshi women in India. They do not able to receive any legal assistance due to lack of official entrance in the country. The government official sources reveal that they hide their original identity and changed their names to stay in India for earning money. According to the Ministry of Home affairs, a significant number of Bangladeshi migrants entered in India through illegal process. As of December, 2001, estimated 12 million illegal migrants resided in India (Naujoks, 2009).

Afghan refugees live in Delhi, there are also a large number living in Faridabad, Haryana. The Afghan Hindu and Sikh community are generally well integrated into Indian society since they share religious beliefs and often speak Hindi. Since the majority of the Afghan community holds resident permits, many Afghans are able to work in the informal sector, for example, running shops and working as salespeople. Whilst there are some prosperous Afghan refugees, a large number

live in poverty; sharing cramped living quarters with other families and seeking work in the informal sector. Those that are in need receive some support from their community and from various welfare societies like KhalsaDiwan Society and Gurudwaras (Report of Refugees in India, 2007).

The UNHCR also runs various assistance programmes through its implementing partners for the benefit of Afghan refugees. Through its implementing partners, it provides refugees with access to academic resources, including an education assistance programme in association with the Young Men's Christian Association, Delhi. Educational assistance is provided to all Afghan refugee children who are pursuing primary and secondary education (Report of Refugees in India, 2007). Some of the Afghanis are also enrolled in the higher education institutions for studies.

Refugees are socially most vulnerable communities in host country. They are treated 'outsiders' as far as their social identity is concerned. In India, they have to face many socio-cultural and economic problems. Some of the challenges are; lack of refugee status, housing facilities, access to education, access to formal employments, identity issues and regularization from state government. They remain socio-economically backward resulted to poverty and marginalization. However, the issue of refugees is critically addressed in India.

It is evident that there is no regulatory framework for the protection of refugees and exile communities in India. The Indian government has not enacted any laws or regulations relating to the status of asylum seekers and refugees. Instead, those persons are governed by the general Foreigners Act of 1946. In most cases, recognized refugees do not have the right of free movement in India and are not entitled to work. There have been some welfare programmes and educational schemes implementing by state governments but they are not sufficient for their protection of rights and development.

India should have proper documentation of the immigrants and refugees which can assure their identity and protection. Due to lack of their legal documentation, their identity and duration of stay has not been officially recorded under government documents. Indian law, thus, requires every person entering the country to have proper documentation denoting permission from Indian authorities, without such permission, a person is at risk of deportation as an illegal entrant.

This situation is problematic for most refugees who often do not have passports, let alone Indian visas. The South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre reports that although the Extradition Act of 1962 provides some protection to refugees facing extradition, this act does not provide real safeguards for the majority of refugees in India whose removal falls under the category of expulsion rather than extradition.

Only specific refugee groups such as the Tibetans and Sri Lankan Tamils are recognized and supported directly by the Indian government. Other refugees, such as those from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia, have to obtain a "refugee status determination" directly from UNHCR. For this purpose, they must travel to the UNHCR office in New Delhi, where UNHCR assesses whether they fall within the definition of a refugee.

In addition, due to the cross-cultural interaction, they tend to lose their identity in the long run. The very processes of adjustment with the host society, initiates the process of acculturation, which gradually leads to the loss of cultural identity. However, the degree of loss also depends on the size of the refugee group and attitude of the host society to the refugee community. If the process of acculturation is slow, the result is isolation of the refugee community from the host country. In a heterogeneous society the refugee group tends to conform to the norms of appropriate class or reference group with which it identifies itself (Jayaswal, 2014).

On the other hand, one of the important challenges of refugees is denial of citizenship by state. Due to increasing population and lack of sufficient employment opportunities, the country is unable to undertake additional burden of refugees from other countries. Keeping in view the economic and population reasons, citizenship can not be granted to the refugees who have emigrated on or after 25th March, 1971.

80.6 CHALLENGES OF REHABILITATION

Since many decades, India arguably has long served as a destination for migrants and refugees from neighboring countries. However, there is absence of laws related to refugees and asylum seekers. For last many decades, the immigration of refugees and migrants have been increasing in India from neighboring borders. Despite that Indian government have no legal and political action for the managing refugees and immigrants in the country. Even though policymakers and Indian government have yet to address head-on challenges related to illegal immigration from Bangladesh. Though India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol and does not have a national refugee protection framework, it continues to grant asylum to a large number of refugees from neighbouring States and respects UNHCR's mandate for other nationals, mainly from Afghanistan and Myanmar.

With the increasing terrorist attacks over country, the illegal entrants and irregular people are residing in India. Even before the terrorist attacks in Mumbai in November 2008, India looked at illegal migration as a threat to internal security. In 2009, the government started a process to provide forgery-proof identity cards to all its nationals. This is one attempt to tackle the problem of future illegal immigration. The government should have proper legal framework for the protection and shelter for the refugees and their descendants.

With regard to refugee-related policies, both UNHCR and India's National Human Rights Commission have urged the Indian government for decades to ratify the refugee convention and its protocols, as well as to enact special legislation related to refugees and child refugees. Although India is a member of UNHCR's Executive Committee, approving and supervising the agency's assistance programs, India is not willing to sign the refugee convention because — as political analyst Anuj Nair argues — it regards the convention as too Euro-centric.

Furthermore, including refugee issues into multilateral relations and international agreements could constrict India's freedom of action in these areas. For all these reasons, it does not seem likely that India's view of the refugee convention will

change in the near future. Efforts of the expert group and nongovernmental organizations, especially the New Delhi-based Public Interest Legal Support and Research Centre, culminated in the Refugees and Asylum Seekers (Protection) Bill of 2006. Until recently, the government of India was reluctant to adopt a special legal framework because this would limit its powers to deal with refugees on the basis of mere political convenience and because it argues that it treats refugees well regardless of their legal status.

Since 2008, the refugee bill has been under consideration by an inter-ministerial committee, including NHRC. The committee's outcome will decide the legal status of present and future refugees in India.

UNHCR (2019) on the basis of a comprehensive protection risk analysis and in line with a whole of community approach, UNHCR has developed a partnership strategy identifying key thematic areas that will generate protection outcomes and foster solutions. Four key thematic areas for these initiatives are: (a) access to adequate housing; (b) access to education; (c) support to peace building; and (d) support to self-reliance and sustainable reintegration through regional initiatives. In its partnership approach, UNHCR also increases outreach with persons of concern through a comprehensive area-based approach. Engagement with development actors is auctioned through a rights-based approach as aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and supported by the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, to which Afghanistan announced its formal commitment in July 2018. Together these efforts reinforce the centrality of protection and enhance protection advocacy, and UNHCR will continue to strengthen partnership to expand humanitarian access. Community empowerment will continue to be supported and fostered through increased participation, communication with communities, feedback and complaints mechanisms, and enhanced transparency.

Check Your Progress 2:

3. Mention some of the policies of Government of India towards refugees?

.....
.....
.....
.....

4. What are the major challenges of refugee communities in India?

.....
.....
.....
.....

80.7 LET US SUM UP

UNHCR (2011) observed that “when refugees have access to land, the labour market and livelihood opportunities and enjoy freedom of movement, they can have positive economic impacts by creating jobs, services and facilities, or by contributing to agricultural production and the local economy”. Few countries have done remarkable work to rehabilitate refugees so that this humanitarian

work can provide better avenues for productive and dignified engagement of refugee in the local economy. Refugees have been very well integrated with the Canadian society and economy with higher rates of employment, higher incomes and pay more taxes compared to other immigrant groups. Betts, A (2014) has argued that refugees can be economic assets; many are networked within settlements — nationally and transnationally — and, in many cases, use or create technology at higher rates than the local population through internet and mobile phone usage. Under more open policies, refugees can be an economic benefit to their host communities in long term for instance:

With inclusive economic and educational policies some refugee communities are gradually integrated to the local economy as in the case of Tibetan refugees. However, all the refugee communities are not same level of integration culturally, socially and economically. The Afghan migration to India was firstly more of a terrorised transformation to experiencing a comparative liberal and secular country led them to pacify and stand on their own.

80.8 KEY WORDS

Asylum Seeker: According to United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), an asylum seeker is a person who forced to flee from their country and routed to another country to seek or request for sanctuary but not given asylum. In 2014, there were approximately 1.8 million people around the world who are waitING for a decision on their asylum claims (<http://www.unhcr.org/asylum-seekers.html>).

Emigrant: A person who migrates from country of residence to country of destination, then, this person is known as emigrant in the country of residence.

Illegal Immigrants: According to the Foreigners Act, 1946, illegal immigrants fall into two categories – (i) Foreign nationals who have entered into India on valid travel documents and found to be overstaying and (ii) Foreign nationals who have entered into India without any valid travel document. As and when a foreign national is detected to be overstaying in India, violating the visa rules or found to be staying without any valid travel document, necessary action is taken under the relevant provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 including deportation of such foreign nationals. Detection and deportation of such illegal immigrants is a continuous process.

Immigrant: A person who migrates from place of residence to place of destination, then this person is called an immigrant in the place of destination. For example, a person who lives in Italy and has moved to United States of America, this person is called an immigrant in the United States of America.

Migrant: A migrant is defined as any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence. According to International Organisation of Migration (IOM), a migrant can be said a person moving within border or outside border regardless of (a) the person's legal status; (b) the movement of migrant is voluntary or forced; (c) the causes of the movement; and (d) the length of the stay.

Refugee: A Refugee is an involuntary migrant, a victim of political upheaval, war and terror, natural calamity. Every refugee is naturally a migrant but not every migrant is necessary a refugee.

80.9 REFERENCES AND SELECT READINGS

--Anderson, B. (1983). *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Lon-don: Verso.

Bernstorff, Dagmar (2003) & Welck, Hu-bertus Von (2003): *Exile as a Challenge: The Tibetan Diaspora*. Orient Blackswan Publication. © Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung 2003, First Published in Ger-man, ISBN 81 250 2555.

Chahal, Priti (2014). *Refugee inflows in South Asia: A Case Study of Sri Lankan refugees in India*. Theses submitted to the University of Delhi. New Delhi. Available at the website :(<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/10603/28322>). (Retreived on 03/07/17).

Chaurasia, RadheyShyam (2002). *History of Medieval India: From 1000 AD to 1707 AD*. Atlantic Publishers & Dist. ISBN 81-269-0123-3.

Jayaswal, Rajeev (2014). *Tibetan refugee in India: A Sociological Study of continuity and change*. Theses submitted to Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi. Available at the website :(<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/10603/17078>). (Retrieved on 03/07/14).

Michael, Franz (1985). *Survival of a Culture: Tibetan Refugees in India*, *Asian Survey*, Vol. 25, No. 7 (Jul., 1985), pp. 737-744, University of California Press.

Maunaguru, Chitralega (1993). *The Immigration Literature of Sri Lankan Tamils: Some reflections*". *Pravada* (Colombo). May-June. Pp. 30-33.

Naujoks(2009). *Emigration, Immigration and Diaspora Relations in India*. Available at the website: <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/emigration-immigration-and-diaspora-relations-india/> (Retrieved on 02/07/17).

Kumar, Aravind. "Sri Lankan Ethnic Crisis and Chandrika's Peace Initiatives". *Stategic Analysis*. December 1995. Vol. 18. No. 9. Pp. 1179-92.

Rathi, Prateeka (2010), *The Tibetan Diaspora in India and their Quest for the Autonomy of Tibet*, Manekshaw Paper, Knowledge World Publish-ersPvt Ltd, New Delhi, © 2010, Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi.

Routray, B. P., (2007). *Tibetan Refugees in India: Religious Identity and the Forces of Modernity*. *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, Vol. 26, No. 2, pp. 79-90.

Routray, Bhibhu Prasad (2007). *Tibetan Refugees in In-dia: Religious Identity and the Forces of Modernity*.

Report of Refugee Populations in India (2007). Human Rights Law Network. Available at the website: (<http://hrln.org/hrln/refugee-rights/reports/872-report-of-refugee-populations-in-india.html>). Accessed on 03/07/2017.

Sharma, Maina (2009). *Refugees in Delhi*. Working Paper No 229. Centre for Civil Society.

Suryaayan, V. (1995). "India and the Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka: A Case Study of Third Party Mediation to Resolve Domestic Conflicts". Strategic Analysis. vol. 18. no. 3. June 1995. pp. 387-405.

Tibetans, Sri Lankans,
Bangladeshis and
Afghans

Thinley, Phurbu(2010). Planning Commission releases report on Tibetan demographic survey. © 2004-15 Phayul.com.

United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees. 'The State of the World's Refugees, 1995'. UNHCR Publication (Geneva) 1995.

Website:

Migration Policy Institute. Profile of India- Emigration, Immigration, and Diaspora Relations in India. Available at (<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/emigration-immigration-and-diaspora-relations-india/#16>). Retrieved on 02/07/17.

Srinivas, Rajulapudi (2015). News titled 'Migration to capital from Afghanistan and Iran high'. Available at the website: (<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Vijayawada/migration-to-capital-from-afghanistan-iraq-high/article7204036.ece>). (Retrieved on 03/07/2017 from The Hindu).

80.10 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS – POSSIBLE ANSWERS

Check Your Progress 1:

1. What do you mean by Refugees? How do you differentiate between Refugees and Migrants?

In simple term a refugee is a person who has been forced to leave his/her country for political or religious reasons, or because there is a war, not enough food, etc. and take shelter in another country. Migrants are often going to other country which can be both voluntary or involuntary. Refugee is only one form of forced migrant.

2. Mention the reason for Tibetan exile in India.

The exile of Tibetans was begun during 1950s which has been a most controversial incident of Tibetan history during the invasion of China. The political contest with China brought changes in the socio-cultural scenario of Tibet and, thus, resulted in a large number of Tibetan exoduses to many other countries especially neighboring country like India.

Check Your Progress 2:

3. Mention some of the policies of Government of India towards refugees?

There are no unique policies for all refugee communities. Refugee communities are given protection as per the UNHCR guidelines. There are special policies for Tibetans i.e Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy 2014. This policy tries to a uniform policy in all states where Tibetans reside, and normalise access to various Indian government schemes and benefits. Matters concerning land lease, and extending Central and States benefits, are also specified. These benefits include in the area of education and employment, Indira Awas Yojana, MGNREGA, National Rural Health

Mission, Banking, providing access to basic amenities like the citizens of India.

4. What are the major challenges of refugee communities in India?

One of the important challenges of refugees is denial of citizenship by state. Due to increasing population and lack of sufficient employment opportunities, the country is unable to undertake additional burden of refugees from other countries. Keeping in view the economic and population reasons, citizenship cannot be granted to the refugees who have emigrated on or after 25th March, 1971.



ignou
THE PEOPLE'S
UNIVERSITY