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Digitization of revenue...

been made and process for a viable permanent solution has been initiated with concerned authorities.

A complainant, Owais Khurshid from Bandipora apprised the Lt Governor that his grievance regarding the non-availability of Sumo Service on Dawar to Bandipora route has been resolved after reporting it on the JK-IGRAMS portal.

The Lt Governor also passed directions for organizing Debates, Essay Writing competitions on the theme of "Truth and Non-Violence" in educational institutions across the UT. Rehana Batul, Commissioner/Secretary, Public Grievances briefed the meeting about the progress made in terms of redressal of grievances received from the people.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; R K Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Vivek Bhardwaj, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, Heads of the Departments, and other senior officers were present during the interaction, in person and through virtual mode.

Complaints of atrocities...

north Kashmir's Baramulla district, Halder said people belonging to the two communities can reach out to the commission for any information or getting their grievances redressed.

"If any crime like rape or murder is committed against the people belonging to the scheduled community, and if it has been committed by a person belonging to other caste, then the accused will be charged under the atrocities act," Halder said.

After an FIR is registered, the victim's family will get Rs 4.25 lakh right away. The district administration and the social welfare department will provide the money.

"When the chargesheet is filed, the family will get another Rs 4.25 lakh. This is according to the Constitution and people from the SC/ST communities have these rights, but, unfortunately, most of them are not aware of their rights," the vice chairman said.

Slice of cake...

bench headed by Chief Justice U U Lalit referred to the submissions of those opposed to the EWS quota and said the 10 per cent reservation was eating the field available to the general category, open to all meritorious candidates, and violated the apex court judgement that ruled 50 per cent seats have to be made available to the open category and cannot be eaten away .

The Centre, represented by Attorney General K K Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, vehemently defended the 103rd constitutional amendment, saying reservation provided under it was different and had been given without disturbing the 50 per cent quota meant for the socially and economically backward classes (SEBC). Hence, the amended provision does not violate the basic structure of the Constitution.

There was a submission advanced by one of the counsel that so far as the creamy layer component of the OBCs is concerned, they are not entitled for any reservation as a matter of right... The OBCs, who are above the creamy layer, for them the piece of the cake or the cake get reduced from 50 to 40 percent, said the bench which also comprised Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, S Ravindra Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and J B Pardiwala.

The bench said submissions have been made against the EWS quota contending the poor of SCs, STs and OBCs have been excluded from this category on ground of their caste. There is a right to be treated as an open category. Therefore, it is a floating thing. Depending upon the performance, you get into merit. In the open category, anybody can make it...Once you put a 10 per cent embargo, you are excluding some classes on the basis of caste...This is reserved to those who have no reservations, it said.

These are there in two separate compartments...So far as the OBCs and SCs and STs are concerned, they have been taken care of in the 50 per cent reserved category. And so far, the creamy layer will have to compete in the general category seats, Venugopal said.

The bench said the submissions of the other side have been that the creamy layer of the OBCs will certainly be the part of the open general category, but the point is for them, now the seats will get reduced from 50 to 40 per cent.

The topmost law officer said nothing has been changed with regard to the existing 50 per cent reservation for the SEBC and rest of the OBCs will be in the advantageous position .

The non-reserved category is an independent category and the classification among them to decide the EWS is permissible, Venugopal contended.

Referring to previous judgements, he said such a classification into two different groups was not only permissible but it was the duty of the state to lift them up and out of poverty.

The question is, in such a case, whether the remaining 40 per cent (of general open category) can complain. The entire 50 per cent (of non-reserved category) could have complained when three backward classes (SCs, STs, OBCs,) were given 50 per cent reservation, Venngopal said.

This 50 per cent had to reconcile themselves to forgoing the whole 100 per cent, he added.

He said 10 per cent seats each for EWS of SCs, STs and OBCs will take the entire reservation to 80 per cent which would violate the apex court judgement in the Balaji case where it had held that 50 per cent seats have to be made available for open general category. My submission is that this 10 per cent falls into a totally different category or a compartment from that of 50 per cent given to SEBC, he said.

The court would be unjustified if it holds that the situation was not extraordinary, warranting the grant of 10 per cent quota to uplift the general category poor, Venugopal said.

Senior advocate Mahesh Jethmalani, appearing for Madhya Pradesh, supported the constitutional amendment, noting EWS quota has been implemented in the state.

SIA conducts raids...

security implications for the state.

During the course of raids, search parties seized various incriminating material having direct bearing on investigation of the case viz a viz terror funding etc.

Besides, analysis of the said material would follow and leads that would emerge would become the basis for further investigation in suspected case of terror funding.

"It is pertinent to mention that the searches are aimed at dismantling the terror ecosystem across Jammu and Kashmir by identifying various over-ground workers, terror supporters and against those who are involved in facilitating unlawful activities concerning the national security", the spokesperson said, adding that the raids are being carried out in coordination with concerned district police and district administration.

Comic-actor Raju...

his untimely demise is extremely sad.

"He had an uncanny talent to enthral the audience with his comical performances. Due to his influence, the staging of comedy in India got a new identity. My condolences to his family and fans," the president said in a Twitter post.

Paying tribute, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the stand-up artiste "brightened our lives with laughter; humour and positivity".

"He leaves us too soon but he will continue to live in the hearts of countless people thanks to his rich work over the years. His demise is saddening. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti," the prime minister tweeted.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also extended condolences over the demise of the actor.

Taking to Twitter, Sinha posted "Deeply saddened by the untimely demise of Shri Raju Srivastava, an icon who gave a new meaning to the field of comedy with his impeccable style and flawless timing. His death leaves a void that's hard to fill. My condolences to his family and fans in this hour of grief."

The artiste, who featured in Hindi films such as "Maine Pyar Kiya" and "Baaazar", was declared dead at 10.20 am, according to hospital sources.

Srivastava, who is survived by his wife and two children, was chairperson of the Film Development Council Uttar Pradesh.

The last rites will take place on Thursday morning here, his brother said.

Soon after the news of his death was flashed in the media, friends, relatives and fans reached his Kanpur residence where his family members reside, to pay their heartfelt tributes.

While mourning for the comic-actor, the fans recalled his spectacular personality and how grounded he was throughout his life despite making a name for himself.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was among the first to pay his condolences.

"I am deeply saddened by the passing away of renowned comedian, Raju Srivastava ji. Apart from being an accomplished artist, he was also a very lively person. He was also very active in the social field. I extend my condolences to his bereaved family and fans. Shanti!" Singh tweeted.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said Srivastava took the genre of comedy to new heights with his talent and hard work.

"The death of Shri Raju Shrivastava ji, who entertained everyone throughout his life with his innovative art skills, is extremely sad. Expressing my condolences to the bereaved family, I pray to God for the peace of the departed soul," he said in a tweet. Punjab Chief Minister and Srivastava's former colleague Bhagwant Mann said he had worked with the popular comedian and learnt a lot from him.

In a tweet in Hindi, Mann said, "#Raju Srivastav ji made us laugh a lot in his life but today it is very sad to hear this news worked a lot with him and also learnt a lot.

"Raju ji may not be with us physically but his performance will always remain alive in our hearts. We'll miss you 'Gajodhar Bhaiya'," he added

The Uttar Pradesh assembly also observed a two-minute silence in his memory.

Among others who paid tributes to the comedian were Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy, Union Information and

Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur, BJP president J P Nadda and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Film personalities also paid paid homage to the actor-comedian.

"Raju Srivastava Om Shanti RIP," wrote veteran filmmaker Rakesh Roshan on Instagram.

Ajay Devgn said he is saddened by Srivastava's death.

"In your lifetime you gifted us laughs & more laughs, on & off the screen... RIP Raju. Om Shanti. May the Almighty give your family strength in this hour of bereavement," he wrote on Twitter.

Hrithik Roshan, who worked with Srivastava in the 2003 film "Main Prem Ki Diwani Hoon", tweeted: Forever in our hearts. Rest in peace Raju Srivastava Sir: My condolences to the family.

"Raju bhai, you made us all laugh throughout your life. May your soul rest in peace," Akshay Kumar posted.

Veteran actor Shekhar Suman, who served as a judge on "The Great Indian Laughter Challenge", remembered the comedian as a unique and inimitable talent.

"Raju was the funniest man alive. We will all miss him forever. I had the privilege and honour of judging him on many shows including 'The Great Indian Laughter Challenge' that catapulted him to unimaginable heights. Long live Raju!" Suman said.

Actor Nimrat Kaur and director Sanjay Gupta remembered the comedian too.

"Deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Late Raju Srivastava ji. May God bless his journey into the light #RIPRajuSrivastava," Kaur tweeted.

"Rest In Peace Raju. Thank you for all these years of fun and laughter," said Gupta.

A familiar face in the entertainment industry since the 1980s, the comedian tasted unparalleled success after participating in the first season of the reality stand-up comedy show "The Great Indian Laughter Challenge" in 2005.

Arms Licenses scam...

(Amarnath Bhargav and his brother Madan Mohan Bhargav and Mukesh Bhargav), Mohinder Kotwal Arms and ammunition, Swaran Singh Arms and ammunition, Dashmesh Armoury and Kashmir Arms Corporation which led to seizure of cash and gold jewellery worth more than Rs. 2.50 Crores approximately and many incriminating documents including property documents and arms license (in original and photocopy).

Further Enforcement Directorate filed complaint in Adjudicating Authority, New Delhi in April, 2022 for retention of cash, jewellery and documents which has also been confirmed on September; 7, 2022 in its favour.

On March 25, 2022, The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has conducted raid at 11-different locations across Union Territory of J&K in the Arms license case under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 which include residential premises of Rajeev Ranjan, IAS (former DC Kupwara), Itrat Hussain, KAS (former DC Kupwara), Ravinder Kumar Bhatt, KAS (former ADC Kupwara), Tariq Ather and Gajan Singh, both former Judicial Clerks, who had worked at Arms Section at DC Office Kupwara.

Further residential premises of 6- arms dealers of J&K were also searched by the officers of ED and many incriminating documents revealing transactions between arms dealers/brokers with Govt. officials were obtained. It is revealed that many Senior Bureaucrats of J&K are involved in criminal practices of issuance of Arms license in lieu of monetary considerations. The officers and officials of the Districts in connivance with private persons and others had fraudulently and illegally issued the gun licenses.

Sources of information revealed that a well-knit nexus was being run by the arms dealers/independent brokers/agents and Judicial clerks and Deputy Commissioner and Additional Deputy Commissioner of various districts and they has issued arms licenses illegally by flouting the norms, procedure and rules governing the subject in lieu of monetary considerations by abuse of their official position as public servants and every one, beginning from Agents to arms dealers, had their share in this monetary consideration beginning from the broker/arms dealers to judicial clerks to DC/ADC of various districts. ED has registered the case in Arms license matter in 2020 and since then several IAS, KAS officers and other Govt officials have been summoned and investigated.

Pertinent to mention here that Rajasthan Anti-Terror Squad (ATS) and Madhya Pradesh Police had initially unearthed the scam in 2017 and had arrested over 50 people, including an IAS officer; for their alleged involvement in the illegal issuance of arms licenses. According to Rajasthan ATS, over 3,000 permits were granted allegedly in the name of Army personnel.

The CBI had also raided in Jammu and Srinagar houses of many serving and retired bureaucrats in connection with the scam.

CIC New Delhi...

Development (P) Ltd. and whose promoters/ directors/ shareholders/ guarantors/ beneficiaries are Dr Nirmal Singh (former Deputy Chief Minister), Kavinder Gupta (former Deputy CM), Jugal Kishore Sharma (Member of Parliament), Mamta Singh (JU Employee and wife of Dr Nirmal Singh) besides others. On October 29, 2020, the PIO, J&K Bank vide Ref. No. JKBJ/ZOJC1/BR/2020-21-195 declined to furnish information and the PIO in the rejection order took the plea that the information sought is exempted from disclosure in view of section 8 (1) (d) and 8 (1) (j) of RTI Act, 2005. The PIO further held that the information sought is a matter of commercial confidence, besides, invasion of privacy of the individual and thus, cannot be shared. Thereafter, the RTI applicant filed 1st Appeal before the First Appellate Authority of J&K Bank who vide Order No. JKBJ/ZOJC1/2020-869 dated November 23rd, 2020 rejected 1st Appeal and upheld the order passed by the PIO.

Against on denial of the information, a 2nd Appeal came to be filed by Advocate Irtiza Mushtaq on December 12th, 2020 before the Central Information Commission, New Delhi wherein the appellant has reiterated his previous grounds that the details of NPA accounts cannot be withheld and are not exempted from disclosure under the RTI Act as held by the Supreme Court of India in catena of Judgements as well as by the CIC. The appellant has cited several Judgements of CIC and Supreme Court of India in support of his contentions and the matter is going to be heard finally on September 23, 2022 by a Bench of Central Information Commission, New Delhi.

Rubaiya Sayeed abduction ...

JKLF who were lodged at that time in different jails, in exchange of her release. In furtherance of afore delineated criminal conspiracy on 08th December 1989, in the forenoon, you and the other accused persons namely Mohd Rafiq Dar; Ali Mohd Mir, Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo, Mushtaq Ahmed Lone, Manzoor Ahmed Sofi, Wahajati Bashir; Miraj-ud-din Sheikh, Shoukat Ahmed Bakshi, Javed Ahmed alias Nalka, Nanaji alias Saleem, Riaz Ahmed Bhat, Khurshid Ahmed Dar; Basharat Rehman, Tariq Ashraf, Shafaqat Ahmed Shangloo and Manzoor Ahmed alias Muna alias Manzoor Islam assembled in the house of accused namely Mushtaq Ahmed Lone and deliberated upon the plan to kidnap Dr. Rubia Syed, when she would be returning for her house from Lal Ded Hospital Srinagar to Nowgoan Bye pass, Srinagar: Thereafter, you and the other accused persons, except accused Mohd Zaman Mir, proceeded for Lal Ded Hospital and reached its main gate. All of you, as per your pre-plan, scattered into small groups . At the same time, you pointed your finger towards Dr Rubia Syed for providing her identification to the other accused persons namely Manzoor Ahmed Sofi and Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo and asked them to keep a watch over her movements, while she was inside the hospital. Later on, they were replaced by accused persons namely Mushtaq Ahmed Lone and Mohd Rafiq Dar; who had started following Dr. Rubia Syed and her friend Dr. Miss Nargis Andrabi when they came out from the hospital and started walking towards Matador point at Exhibition Crossing. At the same time, accused persons namely Abdul Rehman Dar; Manzoor Ahmed Sofi and Mehraj -ud -Din alias Dina also started following them by forming another group. On reaching Hari Singh Street, Dr. Nargis turned towards Anura Kadal Bridge for proceeding to her house, whereas, Dr. Rubia Syed walked further on Hari Singh High Street to reach Exhibition Crossing, to board Mini Bus for her house, situated at Nowgoan, Bye pass. At about 4.00 PM of the same day, she boarded the Tata Mini Bus bearing Registration No. JKPF-0697 bound for Nowgoan Bye Pass. Immediately thereafter, Mushtaq Ahmed Lone, Mohd Rafiq Dar; Nana Ji @ Saleem, Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo, Manzoor Ahmed Sofi alias Mustafa and Mehraj-ud-Din Sheikh, who were earlier following her; also, boarded in the same Mini Bus. In the meanwhile, accused namely Ali Mohd Mir started plying the Maruti Car; without number plate, being occupied by you and the accused Javed Ahmed Mir alias Nalka and Ishfaq Ahmed Wani (Since dead) started following the afore mentioned Mini Bus and on reaching Hotel Zam-Zam at Rambagh, accused Ali Mohd Mir dropped you and accused Javed Ahmed Mir alias Nalka. Both of you, boarded the Mini Bus and get mixed with the other accused persons, who were earlier boarded the same. When the Mini Bus was about to reach last stop at Nowgoan Bye pass, you and Ishfaq Majid Wani took out your pistols and pointed towards the driver of the Mini Bus and simultaneously asked him not to stop, rather, continue plying further. At the same time, Mushtaq Ahmed Lone, Mohd Rafiq Dar, Nana Ji alias Saleem, Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo, Manzoor Ahmed Sofi also took out their respective pistols and pointed the same towards the driver and the accused namely Mehraj-ud- Din had took out AK-47, which was lying under his feron and pointed the same to the passengers including Dr. Rubia Syed and asked them to keep sitting without making any noise. Thereafter, Mini Bus proceeded further towards Kanipora. On reaching at Kralpora you and Ishfaq Ahmed Wani and other accused asked Dr. Rubia Syed to get down from the Mini Bus. On showing reluctance to do so, she was threatened to be killed.

At the same time, accused Javed Ahmed Mir alias Nalka entered in the Mini Bus and forced Dr. Rubia Syed to get down from the same. Thereafter, she got boarded in the blue colored Maruti Car; which was being driven by accused namely Ali Mohd Mir. At this, you and Ishfaq Ahmed Wani also boarded the Maruti Car. All of you had taken Dr. Rubia Syed to Sopore and kept her in an old house situated in Irrigation Colony in possession of the accused Javed Ahmed Mir. After two hours, you and the accused persons namely Ali Mohd Mir; Ishfaq Majid Wani and Mohd. Rafiq Dar shifted her to the Flat-B-1 of Irrigation Colony Sopore, belonging to accused Javed Ahmed Mir. She was kept there from the evening of 8th December till the evening of 9th December 1989. Thereafter, after finding the afore mentioned accommodation unsuitable , she was shifted by the accused

persons namely Ali Mohd Mir and Mohd Zaman Mir to the house of accused namely Mohd Yaqoob Pandit, situated in the Industrial Estate Sopore in a Maruti Car bearing Registration No. JKE-3593, which was being driven by the accused namely Mohd Zaman Mir. Thereafter; in the evening of 09th of December 1989 ,accused Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo and Halima also reached Sopore, in order to keep guard over Dr. Rubia Syed and she was kept in the afore referred house till her release i.e. on 13.12.1989 in exchange of above referred five known militants of JKLF, who at that time were lodged in different jails of Jammu and Kashmir: During the afore said period of confinement of Dr. Rubia Syed, the accused persons namely Mohd. Rafiq Dar and Iqbal Ahmed Gandroo, who were armed with AK-47 Rifles alongwith accused Mst. Halima had kept watch on Dr. Rubia Sayed till her release on 13th December 1989.

Not ready to....

of Article 370) and are hopeful that it will hear the petitions soon and we will get relief from this difficult situation," the former chief minister said.

Abdullah was chairing a day-long convention of the party's block workers, office-bearers and functionaries at Batote in Ramban district on Tuesday as part of efforts to sensitise them on the ongoing special summary revision of electoral rolls.

"We are not only dependent on the apex court," he told them. "We are having a political fight without asking people to throw bricks, grenades or use guns. Our fight is a political fight and we are going to fight it politically. Obviously, the first chance we have got is the (next) Assembly election. The more we win, the more we will be able to take forward this in the Assembly."

Referring to the independence struggle, he said the National Conference never abandoned the flag of secularism.

"In 1947, the Muslim majority Jammu and Kashmir heard the chants of Allah-u-Akbar (God is great) but we never accepted the two nation theory. Had we gone there, what would have happened to Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists (of Jammu and Kashmir). They had only option to migrate and our fight was against it.

"Today, the same fight continues. We are not ready to accept that India is communal. India has been secular and it will remain secular," Abdullah said.

He also sought to downplay the recent controversy over school staff making students recite the famous bhajan "Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram..." in a classroom in Kashmir, saying nobody loses their faith by singing bhajans or visiting a Muslim or Hindu shrine.

"I used to sing Bhajans," he said, asking, "By singing Bhajan, have I become a Hindu? If a Hindu is visiting the Ajmer Sharif Dargah or the Nizamuddin Auliya shrine, does he become a Muslim?"

"Several of our people pay obeisance at the shrine of Mata (Vaishno Devi), do they also turn into Hindus? No, the people go there (revered places) because they feel their problems will get resolved there. Everyone belongs to Him (the almighty)," he said.

He termed "frivolous thinking" the ban on 'Dastaar Bandi' (turban tying ceremony) of politicians by the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board and said "It is an honour bestowed on people which is prevalent since the Dogra rule."

The Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board had recently issued an order saying 'Dastaar Bandi' would only be done to felicitate those who have made achievements in the religious field.

"With time, such types of orders will vanish and Dastaar Bandi (ceremonies) will return and nobody is going to stop it. It is an honour and is prevalent since the Maharaja's time," he said, adding caps replaced turbans but elderly people still wear turbans and are honourable.

Billing process for...

pay Principal amount shall invite penalty and legal action, besides disconnection of power.

The MD JPDCL also added that the current bills generated after March-2022 are to be paid simultaneously with the Outstanding Principal amnesty amount. "Those who fail to pay current bills simultaneously shall forfeit the benefit of Amnesty Scheme and face disconnection of Power Supply" he cautioned and added that It has been decided that two separate bills i.e Current Bills and Amnesty Bills shall be generated for Domestic Consumers who are eligible to avail Amnesty Scheme. The billing process for amnesty shall start from the next Month."

To publicize the Scheme, PDD has also decided to form joint teams of District Administration and Elected Representatives including DDC, BDC Members and Corporators of Jammu Municipal Corporation with PDD Officers so that maximum number of people can avail the benefit of the Scheme.

Pertinent to mention that more than 3 lakh domestic power consumers across the Jammu Region will obtain the benefit of the Amnesty Scheme approved by the Administrative Council headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha a few days back.

The decision was taken by the Administrative Council in view of domestic consumers not being able to avail the benefits of the last scheme due to spread of COVID-19 pandemic during the scheme period.

Deal strictly with...

restrict the movement of anti-peace elements.

He directed that forces to maintain pressure on anti nation elements so that terror groups don't get any chance of revival. The DGP impressed upon the officers, to work out strategies to further consolidate peace in Jammu Kashmir adding that in the process forces have to ensure that civilians do not face any inconvenience. Stressing for remaining more vigilant against terror support network who are helping terrorists to carry out their nefarious designs, the DGP directed for putting in utmost efforts to ensure terror free Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting a threadbare discussion regarding the terror crimes in valley was held and the officers present in the meeting gave suggestion regarding anti-terror operations and for strengthening peace further in J&K. The DIG CKR apprised the DGP regarding the area domination in Srinagar City as also in districts of South Kashmir for effective surveillance of anti peace elements through a PowerPoint presentation.

Spl DGP CID, J&K R.R Swain, IG CRPF Ops Kashmir; M.S Bhatia, IG CRPF Srinagar Ops Sector, Charu Sinha, ADGP Kashmir Zone Vijay Kumar; IGP Hqr. B. S Tuti, DIG CKR/SKR Sujit Kumar; SSP Srinagar; Rakesh Balwal and AIG (Training and Policy) JS Johar attended the meeting.

CS for exploring.

customized use. It was also said that an amount of Rs 152.00 lakhs is being spent on acquiring of other traffic equipment.

It was further revealed in the meeting that in order to generate public awareness the Motor Vehicles and Traffic departments had conducted 2134 awareness camps in the previous year and 1256 camps upto August this year. The health check-up of thousands of drivers has also been carried out by these departments jointly during the past 2 years, as was apprised in the meeting.

Security agencies input...

to an already existing large influx of illegal immigrants from the neighbouring countries, the demographic profile of some of the bordering states in India has already undergone a serious change which is causing far-reaching complications in various contexts and has a direct detrimental effect on the fundamental and basic human rights of country's citizens.

Illegal influx of Rohingyas in significant numbers has started to the territory of India since 2012 -2013 and the Central Government has contemporaneous data from security agencies inputs and other authentic material indicating linkages of some of the unauthorised Rohingya migrants with Pakistan based terror organisations and similar organisations operating in other countries.

Over and above the said serious security concern already in existence, more disturbing part is that there is an organised influx of illegal migrants from Myanmar through agents and touts facilitating illegal migrant Rohingyas into India via Benapole- Haridaspur (West Bengal), Hilli (West Bengal) and Sonamora (Tripura), Kolkata and Guwahati. This situation is seriously harming the national security of the country, the affidavit said.

The Centre's affidavit was filed in response to a petition by a woman, who claims to be a Myanmar national, challenging the Ministry of Home Affairs and Foreigners Regional Registration Office's decision to refuse their exit permit applications to leave India for resettlement in the United States where her husband is residing.

The woman submitted that she is not a Rohingya.

The government said the petitioner has committed a gross violation of Indian laws, visa rules, and statutory conditions and the action taken by the respondent officials was as per the procedure. It said the woman has not produced any document to show that she is a Myanmar national and she has not mentioned in the petition as to when did she enter India and which travel documents she used.

This shows that she had entered India illegally as an illegal migrant. After entering India illegally, she had got herself registered with UNHCR as a refugee and then she continued to stay here in India as an Illegal migrant , the affidavit said.

It said that granting exit permits to illegal migrants like the petitioner would have a bearing upon similarly placed cases from other refugees as well and it would convey a message that the Indian government is supporting and facilitating the resettlement of illegal migrants in third countries which would be detrimental to the international relations of the Indian government. The nexus of touts and agents as mentioned above shall use the situation to their advantage to further increase influx of more Rohingyas in India which would again open a Pandora box for the Indian government which is already dealing with the menace of illegal migration through its porous borders, it said.

The government further said so far as India is concerned, national security considerations rank the highest on the country's list of priorities given a geopolitical influence in the region and its vulnerability to mass border infiltrations due to the porous nature of its border which our country shares with many countries.