

INTERNATIONAL
THE NEWS

Magsi slams NA bill to settle stranded Pakistanis in Sindh

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By By our correspondent

HYDERABAD: Sindh Taraqqi Pasand Party (STPP) chief Dr Qadir Magsi on Friday strongly condemned the bill moved in the National Assembly, seeking the rehabilitation of Biharis (stranded Pakistanis) in Sindh by giving them citizenship rights.

Addressing a news conference at the press club here, Qadir Magsi also expressed surprise over the silence of MNAs from Sindh, as they did not oppose the bill moved by a Pakistan Muslim League (PML-Q) MNA.

Dr Magsi alleged it seemed the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) had bought the loyalties of the PML-Q member for presenting such a bill. He pointed out the Biharis, who had gone to East Pakistan in 1947, were living there for the last 62 years, yet they were not even loyal to Bangladesh. He said Sindh was the land of Sindhis since ancient times and it would remain so.

Dr Magsi also asked for provision of water to Sindh according to the 1991 water apportionment accord. He demanded closure of the Chashma-Jhelum Link Canal and end to the practice of diverting Indus water for filling dams.

He deplored that the police and Rangers were killing political workers of Sindhi parties. He said a few days back, a worker of the Sindh United Party was killed in Jamshoro but no FIR was registered against the DPO and other police officers despite the Sindh High Court order.

He said two workers of his party were killed by police in Karachi on June 10, 2009 and seven injured. He alleged the government, instead of taking action against the killers, had been protecting them. He said a report submitted by DIG AD Khwaja had exonerated the STPP workers and held the police responsible for the killings.

He said the Malir sessions court had issued an order for the registration of an FIR against the killers, including Home Minister Zulfiqar Mirza and the Gadap DPO, but the police had been refusing to register a case against them and the STPP were being asked to withdraw the name of the home minister. He said the STPP would approach the higher judiciary if an FIR into the killings of STPP workers was not registered.