

**Ministry of Home Affairs  
(Foreigners Division)**

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**Press Note**

22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2014

Mr. Scott Morrison, Australian Minister for Immigration & Border Protection met the Union Home Minister at North Block today, the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2014. Union Minister for External Affairs was also present. The meeting was mainly to discuss issues relating to illegal migration and in this context Australian Minister mentioned that a boat with 157 persons onboard was seized by the Australian authorities in the last week of June 2014.

2. The Union Home Minister stated clearly that India as a matter of policy does not support any kind of illegal migration either into its own territory or illegal migration of its citizens to foreign territories.

3. The Indian side sought consular access and emphasized the importance of handling such cases in a legal and humanitarian manner ensuring that no harm befalls upon anyone, especially minor children.