

opined that since the post of the Labour Officer is included in the Central Pool of Labour Officers, Shri Sharma's posting to the Lohia Hospital is not on deputation basis and as such, restrictions on period of deputation are not applicable in this case. Ordinarily, however, Shri Sharma could not have continued at the hospital for more than four years at a stretch. However, on the recommendation of the Medical Superintendent of the hospital, the period of his appointment as Welfare Officer at the hospital was extended for a period of two years w.e.f. 22nd September, 1977 with the concurrence of the Ministry of Labour.

#### Child Labour

4418. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

SHRI A. R. BADRI-  
NARAYAN:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-  
SHEKHAR MURTHY:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the figures available with I.L.O. 52 million children below the age of 7 years are working in the world;

(b) if so, whether India has been shown as the highest in the world in the above figures;

(c) what is the actual number of children below the age of seven years in India working as labourers; and

(d) whether India is also attending the conference on children health to be held at the end of the current year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI  
RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b).  
According to a study called "An ILO  
Policy Framework for the International  
Year of the Child, 1979", the number  
of working children (upto about age 14

or 15 years) in the world has been estimated as 52 million. There is no specific mention of India in this study report.

(c) According to the 1971 Census, the total number of child workers below the age of 15 years is 10.74 million. The figures of number of child workers below the age of 7 years are not maintained.

(d) This will be considered when information regarding the convening of such conference is received.

#### Acquisition of Headquarters of Provisional Government of 'Free India' at Singapore

4419. PROF. SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh attempt has been made for acquiring the two historic buildings at Singapore which were used as headquarters of the Provisional Government of Free India and the official residence by the Head of the State of the said Government,— Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose;

(b) whether any fresh attempts have been made for reconstruction of the INA Martyrs monument which was demolished under orders from Lord Mountbatten when the British Army reoccupied Singapore after fall of Japan;

(c) whether these matters were raised on the floor of the House several times during the last many years and the Indian people also made several requests to Government for preservation and restoration of these relics of the great War of Indian Liberation led by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose; and

(d) if so, facts thereabout and the progress made in regard to the above matters?