

**Hospitalisation during Strike of Doctors**

9595. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangements made during the period of strike by doctors of Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi for the patients struggling for life; and

(b) the reasons for the strike and details of the demands made by doctors and action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY): (a) During junior doctors token strike on 8th and 9th March, the senior doctors were made to work for a longer period.

(b) The strike was in sympathy with University College of Medical Sciences students demands. The junior doctors did not have any demand of their own.

**Number of People Repatriated from Sri Lanka**

9596. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Stateless people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka repatriated so far out of the total number of Stateless people;

(b) the number of Stateless people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka absorbed and granted Sri Lanka citizenship so far;

(c) whether the 15 years time limit to complete the process of repatriation and absorption of these Stateless people as fixed under the Shastri-Sirimavo Agreement of 1964 was over;

(d) if so, whether it was due to the slow process in issuing passports to repatriate and absorption of Stateless people according to agreed ratio,

(e) if yes, whether it is a fact that these Stateless people were worried about the future of their children born after 1964 and that uncertainty loomed large among them; and

(f) the steps proposed to solve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) and (b). Out of total of 9,75,000 Stateless persons of Indian origin (along with their natural increase) covered by the 1964 and 1974 Agreements, 3,10,106 persons have been repatriated to India and 1,75,818 have been granted Sri Lankan citizenship up-to February 1979.

(c) The implementation of the 1964 Agreement was to have been completed by October, 1979.

(d), (e) and (f). In accordance with the present pace of repatriation the Agreements of 1964 and 1974 will take longer to implement than originally envisaged. Delays were due to admi-

nistrative and other arrangements which had to be made, and could not be anticipated in advance. However, both the Governments of India and Sri Lanka remain committed to the repatriation to India or the grant of Sri Lanka citizenship to the Stateless persons of Indian origin covered under the 1964 and 1974 Agreements. As such any delays which had earlier slowed the implementation should not be a cause for concern. Steps are being taken to ensure that the implementation will continue smoothly and at a steady rate in the future.

#### **Ticketless Travelling**

9597. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether numbers of cases of ticketless travels requiring police help for apprehension (after detection) has increased;

(b) whether ticketless travels in group (such as college students, group of illegal wood cutters in forests etc.) has increased in 1977-78; and

(c) what measure Government propose to put a curb on such evils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No. The average number of persons prosecuted per month during the period April, 1978 to February, 1979 was 22,437 as against 29,023 during the last year, that is, 1977-78.

(b) Separate statistics of ticketless travel by groups of students or illegal wood cutters are not maintained and, as such, it is not possible to furnish this information.

(c) The following steps have been taken to check ticketless travel on the Indian Railways:—

(1) Special massive checks against ticketless travel are conducted by mobilising a large force of ticket checking staff, Railway Protection force, Government Railway Police and local police personnel under the supervision of senior railway officers.

(2) Joint drives against ticketless travel are undertaken in co-ordination with the state governments.

(3) Incognito checks by travelling ticket examiners in plain clothes are conducted.

(4) Frequent concentrated surprise checks, especially by moving the checking parties accompanied by Railway Protection Force/Police and Railway Magistrates by road transport, are conducted.

(5) Replacement checks are conducted by the headquarters and divisional ticket checking squads by intercepting the trains in mid-sections.

(6) The ticket checking staff of one railway system are deployed for ticket checking on another system.

(7) Educative propoganda against ticketless travel is carried out among the travelling public, particularly among the student community.

(8) With a view to inculcating ticket conciousness among the student community, they are associated as volunteers in the ticket checking activities of the Indian Railways and lectures are delivered by serving and retired railway officers in educational institutions.