

Effect of New British Rules on Indians

378. SHRI SHIV KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a news-item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated 21st February, 1980 under caption "New entry rules in U.K.";

(b) if so, the expected effects of such rules on Indians residing in Britain; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken by Government for getting the rules modified by the British Government for the benefit of Indians who are residing there?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The new rules make a distinction between British women born in the UK or one of whose parents was born in the UK and British women born abroad, whose parents were also born abroad. The latter will not be entitled to obtain entry into the United Kingdom for their husbands or male fiances who need entry clearance for the United Kingdom. This will restrict the choice of partners for immigrant women who have settled in Britain. The rules also restrict admission into the UK of certain categories of dependents like grandparents, and children above the age of 18.

We have brought it to the attention of the British authorities at various levels that the discriminatory element in the proposed changes in the new Rules would affect some people of Indian origin settled in Britain. Our Atcing High Commissioner in London also presented

an Aide Memorie to the British Home Secretary in November 1979 in this regard. We shall continue to take up with the British authorities suggestions to alleviate hardships to Indians in Britain, while recognising that immigration rules are entirely within the competence of the British Government.

Electrification of Bhusaval-Itarsi

379. SHRI SHIV KUMAR SINGH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision for the electrification of Bhusaval-Itarsi Division of the Central Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons for not electrifying the Division so far; and

(c) the time by which electric trains will be introduced in the Division?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). There is at present no proposal to electrify Bhusaval-Itarsi section. However, it is planned to electrify the trunk routes joining Calcutta, Delhi, Bombay, and Madras, including Delhi-Bombay trunk route via the Central Railway route. From the Bombay end, Bombay V.T. to Bhusaval has already been electrified and from the Delhi end, electrification of Delhi-Mathura-Jhansi section has been sanctioned and preliminary electrification works are in progress.

As regards the remaining section between Jhansi and Bhusaval (which includes Bhusaval-Itarsi section), electrification will be considered depending upon availability of funds and *interse* priority with other high density routes also proposed to be ultimately electrified.