

but no decision regarding the location has yet been taken.

Demand to set up A Central Medical Institute at Madras

552. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware of the need voiced in Tamil Nadu for setting up of a Central Medical Institute at Madras; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government for setting up such an Institute?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of T.B. Sanatorium in every District

553. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to start T. B. Sanatorium in every District with the help of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of T. B. Sanatorium proposed in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Effect of Nepali Acts on Indian Nationals

554. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the Nepal Private Firm Registration Act of 2018

Sambat, Nepal Income Tax Act 35 and Foreign Tax Nepalese Agency Act Sambat 2014, Nepal Contract Act Sambat 2031 and Section 13 of the Foreigners Act of Nepal has not been affecting Indian nationals in Nepal and Indo-Nepalese relations;

(b) whether the Government of India had asked the Indian Embassy at Kathmandu to publicise in Nepalese papers the Indian Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1973 but the Embassy did not act up to this;

(c) whether M/s Kathmandu Automobiles a business concern was granted permit by Indian Embassy for movement in India by car guaranteed by this Firm which car was caught with contraband hashish; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The Nepal Private Firm Registration Act of 2018 Sambat, Nepal Income Tax Act 35 and Foreign Tax, Nepal Agencies Act Sambat 2014, Nepal Contract Sambat 2031, and Section 13 of the Foreigners Act of Nepal have placed restrictions on foreign nationals, including Indians, in Nepal. Specifically, under the Nepal Private Firm Registration Act, an applicant for the registration of a private firm should submit with his application, a certified copy of a Nepali citizen certificate; under the Nepal Income Tax Act, advance payment of tax can be demanded from non-Nepalese; under the Nepal Agencies Act, priority is to be given to citizens of Nepal while registering as agents of foreign companies under the Nepal Contract Act, while Nepalese contractors have to deposit only 5 per cent security, foreigners including Indians have to deposit 10 per cent security and have to obtain a licence before they can apply for a contract; under Section 13 of the Foreigners Act, acquisition of property by Indians has been barred and also employment restrictions have come into force. Specific cases of

Indian nationals adversely affected by these legislative measures have been taken up by Indian Embassy in Nepal with the Nepalese Government from time to time.

(b) The Government of India had not issued instructions to the Indian Embassy at Kathmandu to publicise in the Nepalese papers the Indian Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1973.

(c) and (d). Surety given by M/s Kathmandu Automobiles has been normally accepted by the Embassy of India in Nepal. However, since it Auto-suspected that M/s Kathmandu Automobiles had stood guarantee/surety for the car involved in the alleged drugs-smuggling incident of August 3, 1979, the Embassy has been advised that pending the investigation of the allegation against the above firm, the surety given by the latter should not be accepted.

Foreign Naval Presence in Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean

555. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several North Atlantic Treaty Organisation countries have sent their Armada of Numerous warships, etc. into the Persian gulf headed by the USA;

(b) whether USA is strengthening its war base at Diego Garcia in utter disregard of the Demand of the Mauritius Government to return the island to it; and

(c) what steps India propose to take to enforce UNO resolution for keeping Indian ocean as an Ocean of Peace?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The presence of naval ships of certain western powers, including USA, U.K. and France, has

been reported in the neighbourhood of the Gulf.

(b) Government is aware that the United States is expanding the base facilities in Diego Garcia. Under the revised strategy for the Indian Ocean, Diego Garcia will serve as a key support link for the growing American military presence in the region, especially with reference to American plans for induction of a Rapid Deployment Force into this area.

(c) India has reiterated on several occasions that it firmly supports the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace in terms of the UN Resolution of 1971. India has consistently opposed Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean, which introduces new tensions and conflicts in our neighbourhood and constitutes a threat to peace and stability.

India is working with other Non-aligned littoral and hinterland States to preserve the concept contained in the 1971 Declaration which envisages the elimination of Great Power military presence from the Indian Ocean. India supports the convening of the Indian Ocean Conference in 1981 to promote implementation of the 1971 Declaration.

India's Abstention from Voting in UNO Re. Kampuchea

556. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government headed by Heng Samrin is in full control of Kampuchea; and

(b) if so, what necessitated India's abstention in voting at the U.N.O. on the issue in U.N. supervised elections in Kampuchea?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea appears to be in effective control of