

Entry of Pakistan into Commonwealth

9433. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that renewed attempt is being made by U.K. Canada, Australia, New Zealand and some other countries to bring back Pakistan into the Commonwealth during the forthcoming Foreign Ministers Conference in Melbourne;

(b) if so, when the conference is likely to be held;

(c) whether India will be opposing this proposal of bringing Pak into the Commonwealth;

(d) what are the other subjects which are likely to be discussed in the conference; and

(e) whether India will attend the conference?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) This question has been the subject of some informal discussion among members of the Commonwealth.

(b) The Commonwealth Summit is expected to take place in Melbourne, Australia from 30th September to 7th October, 1981.

(c) Pakistan had left the Commonwealth at its own initiative in 1972. At present is no stage for Government of India taking a formal view on this matter.

(d) The agenda for the Summit Conference has not yet been finalised.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Implementation of Agreement Signed with Junior Doctors

9434. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Junior Doctors Federation has decided to launch an agitation from 9th April, 1981 to press for the agreement reached sometime ago;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for not implementing the agreement that had been reached between the representatives and the Central Government; and

(c) what steps are being considered by Government to fulfil the agreement and decide about the demands of the Junior Doctors of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RAJAN LASKAR): (a) The Junior Doctor's Federation of Delhi communicated through their letter dated 6-4-1981 that the Resident doctors had decided, with effect from 26-3-1981, to unilaterally implement the various Clauses of its settlement with Government, dated 1-9-1980. The Federation informed of its constituents having decided to stop doing laboratory investigations and to unilaterally restrict their working hours to not more than 48 hours in a week, with effect from 9th April, 1981.

(b and c) The terms of settlement dated 1-9-1980, arrived at with the Junior Doctors Federation have been implemented. In regard to the pending demand relating to assistance for Thesis written, as per the terms of settlement, whatever is finally agreed to in the case of the Resident doctors in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences would also be extended to the Resident doctors in the Government run hospitals in Delhi. A decision in the case of the Resident doctors in the AIIMS is expected to be finalised very shortly.

Shippers Urged to provide loans at cheaper rates of interest

9435. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether during April, 1981, shippers urged the Union Government to allow them maximum possible scope for developing shipping by providing loans at cheaper rates of interest, and repayable over fifteen to seventeen years;