

THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Indians in Foreign Jails

829. SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians in different jails of foreign countries as on 31 August, 1982 (country-wise);

(b) since when they are in these jails; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to secure the release of Indians detained in foreign jails and to ensure protection of the interest of the Indian community in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) to (c). Information is not available with the Government and is being collected from all Missions abroad. It will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.

Proposed visit of Indian devotional singers to South Africa

830. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a party of Indian devotional singers has recently planned to visit South Africa to give their performance there;

(b) whether Government have put a ban on cultural exchanges with South Africa; and

(c) whether prior permission of the Government was sought in this connection and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government has consistently followed a policy of boycott of South Africa due to its policy of apartheid. Government has, however, having regard to cultural and religious requirements of the large community in South Africa of Indian origin, made exceptions on individual merit, and allowed Indian nationals concerned with Indian culture and religion to visit South Africa at the invitation of cultural and religious organizations belonging to persons of Indian origin.

(c) Government's permission to visit South Africa was given in respect of Mr. Pithukuli Murugadas, a devotional singer and four others of his party for a limited period and for religious purposes only.

Steps to liquidate quacks from the country

831. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that those who practice the indigenous or native systems of medicines prescribe allopathic medicines indiscriminately without any knowledge of that system and the Indian Medical Association has passed a resolution against such practices and urged the Government to put an end to it;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government towards liquidating the quacks from the country in general and Delhi in particular; and

(c) whether a list of such practitioners will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHAN-KARANAND): (a) and (b). There are