

(b) whether the continued recession in the Shipping Industry had severely affected employment of Indian seamen ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to bring improvement in the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) 15,592 as on 1.11.1983.

(b) Yes.

(c) An Expert Committee headed by Admiral S.M. Nanda (Retired) was set-up to go into the question of unemployment of seamen. This Committee has made 18 recommendations in Part I of its report. Most of these recommendations have been accepted in principle and are in various stages of implementation. These include issues like suspension of fresh recruitment and training of seamen, establishment of an effective seamen force, lowering of retirement age and re-adjustment of rosters etc.

Part II of the report is still awaited.

Details Regarding People of Indian Origin in Sri Lanka

471. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the latest position regarding the number of persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka (i) who have got Sri Lankan Citizenship ; (ii) who have been repatriated in terms of Shastri-Srimavo agreement and (iii) those who are still living as stateless in Sri Lanka ;

(b) how many of these persons of Indian origin falling in each of the three categories fled to India as a result of the disturbances earlier this year ; and

(c) how many of them (category-wise) have sought Indian citizenship, how many have since returned to Sri Lanka and how

many are presently lodged in relief camps in India and in Sri Lanka ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) As on 31st August, 1983, in terms of the Shastri-Sirimavo Agreement, the number of accountable persons who have got Sri Lanka citizenship is 185722 ; the number of accountable persons granted Indian citizenship and repatriated to India is 307625 ; and the number of persons who are still living as stateless in Sri Lanka is 89315.

(b) According to our information between 25th July and 21st October, 1983, 15338, Tamils holding Sri Lanka passports, 1040 Tamils holding Sri Lanka identity certificates and 7602 repatriates holding Indian passports have come to India. It is not possible to assess with any degree of accuracy the number of those who may have come clandestinely.

(c) The exact number of persons who continue to stay on in India and have sought Indian citizenship is not available.

According to figures released by the Sri Lanka Government, persons in refugee camps as on 11th November 1983 were : 12215 in camps in Colombo and 9975 in camps at other locations in Sri Lanka. All repatriates on their return from Sri Lanka were lodged in camps for maximum period of three months. They were given relief as well as rehabilitation assistance. 1428 Sri Lankan refugees continue to stay in two camps and have been provided relief assistance. Other refugees are staying with their friends/relatives etc., in Tamil Nadu and elsewhere.

Modernisation of Rajabagan Dockyard

472. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a Rs. 52 crore modernisation project of the Rajabagan Dockyard in Calcutta ; and