

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:463  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010  
INDIANS STRANDED IN KYRGYSTAN  
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether 116 Indian nationals remained stranded in Kyrgyzstan on account of violent clashes between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in the southern part of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether all possible assistance was provided to the Indian students by the Indian High Commission there and the Centre; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) In the wake of violent clashes between two ethnic groups in Kyrgyzstan, 105 Indian nationals (mainly medical students) were safely evacuated on June 14, 2010, from the troubled cities of Osh and Jalal-Abad in Southern Kyrgyzstan to the capital Bishkek, by an aircraft chartered by the India Embassy. This was a very successful operation as no Indian student was injured and the Government achieved its objective of moving our nationals out of the danger zone by the fastest possible means.

(c) & (d) Such assistance as was possible under the circumstances was rendered by our Embassy in Bishkek to the Indian nationals. Arrangements for free meals and stay at university hostels were made by our Embassy while these Indian nationals awaited flights to India, after their evacuation from the South of the country. Most of these students returned to India by private chartered flights in June itself. Some chose to stay back in Bishkek; others travelled by commercial flights on which they were booked earlier. A few of these students did not have the resources to buy tickets for India. In accordance with established consular procedures, the Mission offered to buy tickets for those students who were facing temporary financial difficulties. Some students did avail of this offer. Some of the students had left their passports in Osh or had Kyrgyz visas that had expired. Our Embassy provided them with free passport services to facilitate their travel. Our Embassy in Bishkek continues to monitor the welfare of Indian nationals in Kyrgyzstan.