

this department work, to have proper distribution of drugs so that there are no complaints.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The observation of the hon. Member is noted.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: No observation. I have given a suggestion.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I can again put it: that the suggestion of the hon. Member is noted... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

**उचित इलाज के अभाव में रोगियों की मृत्यु**

\*784. श्री मूल चन्द डागा: क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली में बड़े अस्पतालों में जूनियर डाक्टरों द्वारा हड़ताल किये जाने की अवधि में उचित इलाज न हो पाने के कारण कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई और कितने रोगियों को अस्पतालों से छुट्टी (डिस्चार्ज) दी गयी?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): No person has died in the strike-bound hospitals in Delhi for not getting proper treatment. 8524 patients were discharged from these hospitals during the strike period from 5th July, 1980 to 27th July, 1980, making an average of 371 persons per day, as against an average of 650 persons discharged per day in July 1978 and 659 persons per day in July, 1979.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा: अध्यक्ष महोदय, डाक्टरों ने 5 जून, 1980 को आप को ज्ञापन दिया, उस के बाद 20 जून को रिमाइण्डर दिया, 4 जुलाई को डायरेक्टर जनरल ने बात करने को कहा, लेकिन बात नहीं की, आज आप कहते हैं कि 8 हजार को करीब पेशेन्ट्स को डिस्चार्ज कर दिया गया। मेरे पास यह 16 जुलाई के पेपर की कटिंग है, इस से मालूम होता है-

"The present strike of 1400 junior doctors in Delhi reportedly caused the death of over 30 patients. It may not be easy to establish the veracity of the report but there is no denying the fact that the strike has put thousands of patients and other public in great inconvenience."

स्पीकर साहब, क्षमा करें, 1600 डाक्टर्स काम करते थे, उन्होंने ज्ञापन दिया, फिर भी आप ने कुछ नहीं किया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप उस पर कोई कार्यवाही करने के लिये तैयार हैं या नहीं? आप उन डाक्टर्स के लिये क्या करने जा रहे हैं? आज भी वे सड़क पर हैं, हड़ताल कर रहे हैं और पेशेन्ट्स सफर कर रहे हैं।

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: The question does not flow from the main question. We know that the doctors are on strike since 5th July 1980. In the meantime our Minister has also assured them that if they withdrew their strike, he is ready to talk to them and solve the problem. In the meantime some of the doctors had met our officials in the Ministry and also the Secretary to the Prime Minister. We are fully seized of the situation and I hope within a short period things will be solved.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा: अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप देखिये, क्या जवाब आया है, इस बात को कह कर आप क्या कन्विन्स कराना चाहते हैं? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन की मांगों क्या हैं, उन में से आप किन-किन मांगों को मंजूर करना चाहते हैं, किन-किन को मंजूर नहीं करना चाहते हैं? कितने आदमियों की डेथ्स हो गई हैं, कितने आदमियों को अस्पताल से डिस्चार्ज कर दिया गया है? आज बड़े-बड़े अस्पतालों में इलाज नहीं हो रहा है, गरीब लोगों को वापस लाटना पड़ रहा है। आप ने 150 डाक्टर्स का एम्पाइन्टमेंट किया है। आपकी नीति के कारण पेशेन्ट्स का कितना नुकसान हो रहा है, क्या आप उन की मांगों पर विचार कर के उन की स्ट्राइक को तोड़ने के लिये कोई कान्क्रीट-स्टेप्स लेंगे?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Though this question does not directly flow from the main question, I will not be too technical and reject this question because the government is very much concerned with the situation arising out of the strike. The hon. Member who has put the question, he himself knows and he accompanied the representatives of the junior doctors for discussion with me; I spent a couple of hours with him. May I tell the House that the hon. Member himself was convinced about the stand the government was taking in front of the representatives of the junior doctors...

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: No, no... (Interruptions). They have submitted a memorandum making certain demands.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am glad that the hon. Member took interest in the affairs of the hospitals and the problems of the doctors. I am happy he is still taking interest in the strike-situation. But may I tell the House who are these junior doctors? These junior doctors, so-called, who are on strike also include students who are yet to become MBBS doctors.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: So what?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: They cannot be called doctors; they cannot claim the benefits of the doctors.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Who are junior doctors?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Mr. Jha, listen to me.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Mr. Minister, do not show your temper; I know you better.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Mr. Speaker, we know what he is doing with the junior doctors. I am keeping myself silent.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not be angry.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: I have known things very well. I am keeping myself silent in the House. He need not teach me.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not get angry.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The hon. Member claims to be more experienced. I have nothing to say.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Yes, I am, in any respect, compared to you.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: There is a Chinese saying, may I tell the House? 'A big man never says he is big. A small man never says he is small.'

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please complete the answer.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Junior doctors are there. They are there as students. Therefore, they are for training. They are there to shape their future for better prospects. The Government, during their training period takes service from them and they are paid for that.

There are two broad categories of the demands of the junior doctors. One is regarding their service conditions when they are working in the hospital as Resident Doctors. Secondly, they want to have equal rights as Government servants regarding their pay and their promotions in future. As far as Government is concerned, we are bound to create good conditions for these doctors when they are working in the hospital. We take such responsibility although we are giving training to them. For this,

Government is fully sympathetic. We are willing to do anything to alleviate their problems as far as these things are concerned. Their problems which they say are—after six months if they are thrown out, they have no employment guarantee; If they are employed, they must have promotions, double increments and all sorts of service conditions. There is a system of recruitment of Government servants through the Union Public Service Commission. If these doctors are recruited through the U.P.S.C., naturally they are governed by the Government rules and regulations. For this Government is not willing to do anything further. Since 1974 when this Resident Doctors Scheme came into force, the House may kindly know that they are on contractual basis. They are not Government servants and if there is any breach of contract, Government is willing to look into it. To-day I am willing to say that I am willing to give all the facilities that are conceded to the Resident Doctors of AIIMS. At that time when these Resident Doctors had given me notice, I said I was willing to give them the same facilities as I had extended to the Resident Doctors of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. I requested the doctors when they were on strike.

**श्री राम विलास पासवान :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो डाक्टरों का मामला है, लगता है कि सरकार शुरू से ही प्रीजुडिस्ड है, नहीं तो आज तक इस मामले का समाधान हो जाता। भारत के इतिहास में इतने डाक्टरों का इतना बड़ा मामला नहीं हुआ। इस ढंग से हड़ताल चल रही है और रोगियों की मृत्यु हो रही है और सरकार इस मामले को एक प्रेस्टिज इश्यू बना कर, इस को कचल डालना चाहती है।

**एक माननीय सदस्य:** सवाल कीजिए।

**श्री राम विलास पासवान :** मैं सवाल ही कर रहा हूँ। इसी हाउस में इस के बारे में मेरा कॉलिंग एटेंशन आया था और आप विराजमान हैं आप जानते हैं कि मंत्री महोदय ने उस समय रिपीटेटली कहा था कि सारा सम-

झाँता हो गया है और आप लोगों को जानकारी नहीं है। यहां पर वाजपेयी जी बैठे हुए हैं और श्री बनातवाला बैठे हुए हैं और वे जानते हैं कि मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि आप लोगों को जानकारी नहीं है और समस्या का समाधान हो गया है। हम ने उस दिन कहा था कि समस्या का समाधान कुछ नहीं हुआ है और आप रोगियों के जीवन के साथ खिलवाड़ कर रहे हैं। अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि 5 जुलाई 1980 और 27 जुलाई 1980 के बीच एक भी व्यक्ति की मृत्यु नहीं हुई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जांच किस के द्वारा करवायी गयी है जिस ने कहा है कि अस्पतालों में एक भी मृत्यु नहीं हुई है? मेरी अपनी कांस्टीचुएन्सी, मेरे अपने क्षेत्र के दो आदमियों की मृत्यु हुई है जिनको कि मैंने दाखिल करवाया था। आपने किस के द्वारा यह जांच करवायी है जिस ने कहा है कि हड़ताल के कारण कोई मृत्यु नहीं हुई है? अभी तक जितने आदमियों की मृत्यु हुई है उनके बारे में आपने कैसे सोच लिया कि उनकी मृत्यु हड़ताल के कारण नहीं हुई है अन्य कारणों से हुई है?

**SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR:** I have full statistics with me. Death of indoor patients admitted in hospitals in a serious condition is a normal feature and I have the figures with me for 1978, 1979 and 1980. Let us take one hospital—Safdarjung. In July, 1978 there were 12 deaths and number discharged was 217. In July, 1979 deaths: 13, discharged 213. In July, 1980, deaths: 11, discharged 123. Likewise in other hospitals. There is nothing extraordinary here.

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी:** मैं मंत्री महोदय के इस आश्वासन का स्वागत करता हूँ कि आल इण्डिया इन्स्टीच्यूट आफ मेडिकल साइंसिज में रेजीडेंट डाक्टरों को जो सुविधाएं दी गयी हैं उन सुविधाओं को सरकार बाकी के अस्पतालों के जूनियर डाक्टरों को भी देने को तैयार है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक कदम आगे है। मंत्री महोदय से मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब वे स्वयं स्वीकार करते हैं कि डाक्टरों की समस्याएं दूरगामी भी हैं और

तात्कालिक भी है तो क्या कारण है कि वे उनके सुझाव पर एक कमेटी बनाना स्वीकार नहीं कर रहे हैं ?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** There are various demands of junior doctors and they feel that these demands can be met by appointing a committee. But when I am myself willing to sit with the junior doctors and discuss with them all the problems, where is the question of appointing a committee? I do not understand.

**श्री धर्मदास शास्त्री:** अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपके द्वारा मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह तो ठीक है कि मंत्री महोदय उनकी बात को सुनते हैं लेकिन इस समस्या का हल क्या है ? आखिर डाक्टर हमारे देश की दौलत हैं, इन डाक्टरों को बनाने पर देश का लाखों रुपया खर्च होता है । ये डाक्टर हड़ताल करने पर मजबूर क्यों होते हैं, इसमें कसूर किस का है ? हमारे डाक्टरों को भी मिल-मजदूरों की तरह से हड़ताल करने की नौबत क्यों आने दी जाती है ? इस से हमारे देश की सरकार की कमजोरी नजर आती है । क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि क्यों नहीं उनकी बात पहले ही सुनी गयी जिससे कि हड़ताल की यह नौबत हो नहीं आती ?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** May I repeat it? When this Junior Doctors' Federation gave me notice, at that time the resident doctors of All India Medical Institute were on strike and I was busy in solving their problems. Fortunately, the problems were solved and the strike was called off. During that period, this notice was given. I thought that since the junior doctors in the All India Medical Institute were a part and parcel of this federation, when they were convinced about their demands being fulfilled, the other doctors also would follow suit. But unfortunately, they did not follow suit and went on strike. Even after they went on strike, I sat with these junior doctors three times and I spent a total of about 6 to 7 hours with them. Every

time they met me they have said that they were convinced, but when they went away. I do not know what happened; the strike is continuing!

### Uniformity in Minimum Wages

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\*785. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED:**

**SHRI B. V. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he is working on a proposal that there should be uniformity in minimum wages in all the industries throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been arrived at;

(c) whether, under the proposal, agricultural, rural and industrial workers will also be covered;

(d) whether Government have also considered the views and recommendations of National Commission of Labour in this regard;

(e) if so, whether the Central Government are also considering to take the employers' view into consideration, and

(f) whether any legislation in this regard is likely to be introduced during the current year?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH):** (a) to (f). It was the view of the National Commission on Labour that "national minimum wages in the sense of a uniform minimum monetary remuneration for the country as a whole is neither feasible nor desirable." It has been the endeavour of Central Government to reduce, through persuasion, disparities in the minimum wages fixed by the various Governments, so as to bring about uniformity to the extent possible. No legislation is contemplated in this regard.