

is expected to become the head of a School. However, in order to give more awards to class-room teachers than hitherto given, a proposal to reduce the period of eligibility to 15 years is under consideration of Government.

Death of a Professor in Gurukul Kangri

144. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Professor Om Prakash Sinha had been shot dead by a student in Gurukul Kangri recently;

(b) whether any report has been asked from the management of the Gurukul University about this incident;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission had deputed a senior academician to find out the details about this happening; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the guilty, the compensation paid to the victim's family and the steps taken to avoid the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a), (b) and (d). A report is awaited from the Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya, Hardwar. However, the police is investigating into the matter.

(c) No, Sir. The Commission is not concerned with the matter.

Curbs on entry of foreign Scholars

145. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the curbs on the entry of foreign scholars had been withdrawn;

(b) whether it is still necessary for the foreign scholars to submit their researches to Indian supervisors for valuation;

(c) whether visa applications from the foreign students would be subjected to scrutiny;

(d) whether any restrictions will be imposed on the selection of research subjects on vital subjects; like the greening of border desert areas on the Rajasthan Canal for foreign scholars; and

(e) the guidelines for foreign scholars if any now in existence?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) to (e). There have been no curbs as such on the entry of foreign scholars in India. However, certain framework has been laid down to ensure that while foreign educational activity in India is conducted in the most fruitful manner, it does not adversely affect our national interests. Foreign scholars are thus not permitted to undertake research in certain fields, including those related to the border areas. Keeping this in view, each research project is examined on merits to assess its academic viability, before it can be cleared. A foreign scholar registered with an Indian University as a regular Ph.D. scholar is required to submit his thesis to the University for evaluation, in accordance with the University regulations; scholars registered for a

Ph.D. degree in a foreign University and desiring to come to India for research for a short period, have also to register themselves with an Indian University and work under the supervision of a Professor designated by the University. Scrutiny of applications of foreign students admitted to Indian Universities is subject to the normal visa regulations.

Toll Tax on Vehicular Traffic passing through Vivekanand Bridge on Bombay-Calcutta Highway

146. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Calcutta-Bombay Highway and the Bypass of G.T. Road (Highway No. 2) passes through Vivekanand Bridge and B.T. Road to Calcutta;

(b) whether as per Rule, the Government is to abolish the toll tax on the vehicular traffic passing through the same Bridge; and

(c) if so, when Government is to take action on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA):

(a) to (c). Vivekanand Bridge near Calcutta is now on a National Highway urban link (Belgharia Expressway) connecting N.H. 2 and N.H. 34. There is no provision in the National Highway Act 1956 for levy of toll tax on any part of a National Highway. Also, in the Agreement entered into by the Government of India with the Government of West Bengal in December, 1972 in respect of development and maintenance of this urban link, it was stipulated that the State Government should ensure that Octroi or any other terminal taxes on through traffic and tolls are not levied. As soon as it was known that, in spite of this Agreement, the State Government was still continuing to charge the toll tax, which it had levied earlier when the bridge had

not yet been brought under the programme for development as a national highway urban link, the matter was taken up with the State Government and is under correspondence.

Strikes in the Hospitals all over the Country

147. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of strikes have occurred involving doctors, resident doctors, nurses and Class IV employees in Central/Centrally aided hospitals all over the country during the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such strikes during the last three months; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the working conditions for the hospitals employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) to (c). In so far as Central Government/Centrally aided hospitals under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning are concerned the position is as under:—

Junior/resident doctors in medical colleges and hospitals in Delhi went on strike on the 5th September, 1973 for 48 hours in sympathy with the resident medical doctors in Maharashtra.

The nursing staff of these institutions struck work for one to two days from 16th August, 1973. Their main demand was for increase in the quantum of washing allowance and uniform allowance. The Government have sanctioned the enhancement of