(c) if so, the time by which such universities are likely to be set up and in what manner the control on such universities would be exercised?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The work on setting up the first PIO/NRI university will commence soon. The Ministry has constituted an Advisory Board consisting of officers from the concerned Ministries/Departments and the University Grants Commission (UGC), Medical Council of India (MCI), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) etc.

Steps to tackle racial attacks

59. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry and Ministry of External Affairs have jointly decided to create a permanent institutional framework to tackle the growing threat of racist attacks on young Indian students in Australia;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard so far;

(c) whether the incidents of racist attacks on young Indian students in Australia are increasing inspite of initiative taken by Government to curb such incidents; and

(d) if so, the further reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no joint decision to create a permanent institutional framework to tackle the threat of attacks on Indian students in Australia. The issue has been taken up by the Government of India with the Government of Australia at the highest levels. The Indian High Commission in Canberra and the Consulates General in Melbourne and Sydney have been following up the matter with the federal and State authorities in Australia.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Effect on Indian workers due to recession

60. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the large scale exodus of Indian workers in Gulf countries due to the global economic slow down and recession in those countries;

(b) if so, the details of the Indian workers, State-wise, who returned to India due to loss of job since the effect of economic slow down started; and