

Deporting of Indian students

157. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of students who had travelled en October 31, 2006 from Punjab to Kyiv in order to pursue study in Medical University in Ukraine, were detained at the airport by Ukraine authorities and deported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these students are found to have been cheated by the concerned Medical College and/or Ukraine University or any of their local agents;

(d) if so, the details of steps taken, if any, by Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps being initiated, if any, to prevent its recurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Three Indian students who arrived in Kyiv on 31st October, 2006 were detained at the airport by Ukrainian immigration authorities. The Embassy of India, Kyiv, took up the matter with the local authorities. The Ukrainian side intimated that the students concerned could not enter Ukraine without certain documents. As such, the three students returned to New Delhi on 4th November, 2006. It is understood that the students have since returned to Ukraine on 7th November, 2006 after they obtained the required documents from the Embassy of Ukraine, New Delhi.

(c) No information has been received from any party in this regard.

(d) Does not arise in view of the above.

(e) The Embassy of India, Kyiv, has included an advisory on its website that Indian students should travel to Ukraine only after obtaining all required documents.