

project, Japanese Yen 7,869 million constitute the external aid component. The expenditure incurred on initial activities under the project upto March, 1991 was Rs. 2.69 crores.

Fall in Female Ratio

786. Shri Govindrao Nikam : Will the Minister of **Human Resource Development** be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per 1991 census the female population in the country is falling ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

(c) what is the birth ratio of male and female ; and

(d) whether Government propose to narrow the gap between the male-female ratio ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Department of Women and Child Development (Kumari Mamata Banerjee) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The estimate of birth ratio of male and female ranges from 107 in 1981 to 110 in 1983 according to the Sample Registration System.

(d) Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Hostel for Students belonging to SCs/STs

787. Shri Ram Narain Berwa : Will the Minister of **Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of hostels for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is pathetic in the States ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these students hostels lack general amenities like good food, clothing, electricity and accommodation etc.

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more financial assistance or special central grant to States for improving the conditions of these students hostels ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) : (a) to (d) : Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of hostels for SCs/STs boys/girls Central assistance is provided to the State Governments on a matching grant basis for the construction of buildings for the hostels.

The expenditure on the running and maintenance of the hostels is provided by the State Governments. The Government of India does not provide any Central assistance for this purpose.

[*English*]

Falciparum Malaria cases in Gujarat

788. Dr. K. D. Jeswani : Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Falciparum Malaria cases reported in the State of Gujarat during the last one year ;

(b) whether malaria research centre is functioning in the Kaira District of Gujarat ; and

(c) if so, the details of its functioning ?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri M. L. Fotedar) :

(a) The number of Falciparum Malaria cases reported by State of Gujarat during 1990 and 1991 is as follows :

Year	p.f. cases
1990	1,34,215
1991 (Upto March)	17,301