

individual acceptors and State Governments and close monitoring and follow-up of the programme at all levels.

Field Trial of an Anti-Leprosy Vaccine

148. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact in an important development in the search for a safe and effective anti-leprosy vaccine, Government have approved field trial of an experimental vaccine developed in the country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Yes, the ICRC vaccine developed at the cancer Research Institute, Bombay has been cleared by the Drugs Controller of India as safe for use in human beings in clinical trial. The Indian Council of Medical Research has approved a research project for testing the efficacy of the vaccine in the prevention of leprosy in a selected area in Maharashtra State. The details of the studies are being finalised and a trial is likely to commence in the near future.

Rural Electrification Programme in Maharashtra

149. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the Central Assistance given for Rural Electrification Schemes for Maharashtra ;

(b) how many schemes remain on-going at the end of 1984 ;

(c) what are the projections for the next two years ; and

(d) the Plans formulated by the State Government for inclusion in Seventh Plan for Central Assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The Rural Electrification corporation (REC) have disbursed, up to 28.2.85, an amount of Rs. 142 crores as loan assistance for Rural Electrification Schemes in Maharashtra.

(b) 603 on-going schemes, sanctioned by the REC, were in progress in Maharashtra at the end of 1984.

(c) The REC have proposed a programme of electrification of 2849 villages in Maharashtra during 1985-86 and 1986-87.

(d) The Government of Maharashtra have envisaged an outlay of Rs. 358 crores for Rural Electrification during the Seventh Plan, of which Rs. 64 crores are proposed as financial assistance from the REC.

Number of Scheduled Tribe Villages Without Electricity

151. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in the country/State-wise which are inhabited by Scheduled Tribes and have no electricity ;

(b) whether particular attention will be paid to first cover these villages ;

(c) whether Central Government would formulate any scheme in coordination with the State Government for this purpose ; and

(d) whether Government of Maharashtra have made any request for increased financial assistance for such schemes and if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) A statement indicating, State-wise, the total number of tribal villages, remaining to be electrified as on 31.12.1984, is enclosed.