

PLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir. The NCCF undertook the distribution of imported edible oil during 82-83 only and the supplies were intended to be made through State Consumers Cooperative Federations and Central Consumers Cooperative Stores.

(b) NCCF have reported that there is no record with them of any complaint of this nature in the matter.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss in JMDC

3766. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Manufacturers Development Council hired new accommodation for housing its Secretariat at Calcutta and incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 6.40 lakhs on rent during the period 12 June, 1985 to 9 August, 1987;

(b) whether Rs. 5.69 lakhs of the expenditure proved infructuous due to the hired space remaining vacant;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been held to fix the responsibility for the avoidable loss; and

(d) whether Government contemplate some new measures to ensure that the public sector undertakings keep the non-productive expenditure to the barest minimum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d). JMDC hired accommodation for its Secretariat w.e.f. 12.6.85 at a monthly rent of Rs. 48,750/-. This was hired keeping in view the immediate needs and future requirements. Since some of the anticipated projects did not materialise the

Council vacated this accommodation on 19.8.87 and shifted to smaller premises.

There are standing instructions to effect economy on expenditure.

Visit of Sub-Committee to E.S.I. Hospitals in Kerala

3767. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee from the Centre visited some of the ESI hospitals in Kerala recently;

(b) whether it has submitted its report if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to make better facilities available in the ESI hospitals in the State; and

(d) whether State Government has demanded an increase in the ESI allocation and if so the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) Yes, Sir. A sub-Committee of the ESI Corporation had visited the ESI Hospitals in the State.

(b) The Sub-Committee has submitted its report. Some of the major shortcomings pointed out in their report are as under:—

(i) Specialists, Medical Officers, Nursing and other staff have not been provided as per norms;

(ii) Drugs and certain other items of daily use were not available

(iii) Round the clock supporting services like X-Ray, Laboratory were not available.

- (iv) The equipment available in the hospitals were under-utilised.
- (v) Maintenance of the equipment in the wards was poor.
- (vi) Ambulance services were not available.

(c) The State Government of Kerala, who are responsible for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme in the State have been apprised of the short-comings noted by the Sub-Committee for suitable remedial measures.

(d) The State Government has demanded enhancement of the ceiling of expenditure on medical care etc. and their demand is under consideration of the ESI Corporation.

Toll of Human lives due to Floods in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh

3768 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware of heavy toll of human life in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh during September 1988 rains and the need to check the spread of disease in flood affected areas and whether any medical aid including the supply of medicines and trained personnel was rushed there;

(b) if so, the nature and details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). No loss of human life has been

reported as a result of the occurrence of any epidemic in the flood affected areas of Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh during the September, 1988 rains. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have made extensive arrangements to provide, monitor and coordinate the various medical relief services to the flood affected population of all the flood affected States. These arrangements include ensuring regular supply of medicines/vaccines to the State Health Departments and arranging visit by teams of medical experts to the flood affected areas.

ESI Facilities to the employees of shops and Establishments

3769. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the establishments registered under the Shops and Establishments Act are also being brought under the purview of the Employees State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that because of limited number of ESI dispensaries/hospitals, the employees of the establishments are not able to avail of the ESI facilities in the event of urgency; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to help such employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The establishments registered under the shops and establishments Act, which are situated in the centres where the ESI Scheme has been implemented and are employing 20 or more persons are being brought under the ESI Act gradually.