

broad conclusions as to how the infection is caused; and

(c) the number of children who died due to Encephalitis during the period August, 1958 to January, 1959?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) and (b). Encephalitis means the inflammation of the brain. This can be caused by a variety of causes which include infection with known bacteria and viruses. The recent epidemics of encephalitis in children are presumably due to viruses.

Epidemic encephalitis due to virus falls in the following two categories:—

- (i) That due to a virus transmitted by an insect, such as the mosquito. An epidemic of this infection occurred in South India about two years ago and, even now, a few sporadic cases are being noted. This epidemic was diagnosed as due to the Japanese B encephalitis virus, transmitted by a mosquito.
- (ii) That due presumably to viruses excreted in the stools of patients, cases of which have occurred in many places in the country during the last three years, notably in Jamshedpur, Nagpur, Lucknow and Delhi. A number of viruses have been isolated by workers from these cases. They are at present under study. One of them might turn out to be the cause of the epidemics.

The epidemics which have been mentioned above have also been studied clinically, epidemiologically, etc. The available evidence seems to indicate that these are due to an intestinal virus. This suggests that the infection spreads like other intestinal infections, e.g., typhoid, dysentery, etc. through the agency of contaminated foodstuffs, flies and through insanitary conditions relating to water supply and sewage disposal. This view is supported by observations made in other parts of the world.

(c) The requisite information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

दिल्ली के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कुएं

१०५०. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बतानेकी कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष १९५८-५९ में अब तक दिल्ली के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कितने नये कुएं खोदे गये ;

(ख) कितने पक्के कुओं की मरम्मत की गयी ; और

(ग) उन पर कितना व्यय हुआ ?

सामुदायिक विकास मंत्री के समा-  
सचिव (श्री ड० ल० मूर्ति) : (क) ५५।

(ख) ३५

(ग) ड० १५,३००।

दिल्ली में तालाब

१०५१. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) वर्ष १९५८-५९ में अब तक दिल्ली के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कितने तालाबों की मरम्मत की गयी ;

(ख) उन पर कितना व्यय हुआ ;

(ग) क्या इस कार्य में जनता का सहयोग प्राप्त किया गया था ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका विवरण क्या है ?

सामुदायिक विकास मंत्री के समा-  
सचिव (श्री ड० ल० मूर्ति) : (क) ७२।

(ख) ड० १५,२८५।