

(c) The Government of India is keeping a close watch on the progress of various projects in Calcutta. Progress of various works is being reviewed regularly by the senior officers of the Government of India. The Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority have taken the necessary steps such as placement of funds, procurement of materials, technical examination at all levels to intensify the progress.

**Spreading of Tuberculosis Amongst Tribals of West Bengal**

7242. SHRI DINESH JOARDER : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware that the tribal people of the "Barind" area in the District of Malda in West Bengal are dispersing at large by leaving their homes due to widespread of Tuberculosis amongst them;

(b) whether there is no scope whatsoever for their treatment; and

(c) if so, action Government are contemplating to take in this matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Amount Spent by O.N.G.C. on Litigation in Fighting Cases Against its Employees**

7243. DR. RANEN SEN :  
SHRI BHOLA MANJHI :  
SHRI N. S. BISHT :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

the exact amount so far spent by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on litigation in fighting court cases against its employees after September, 1968 strike ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : A sum of Rs. 159,153.62 P. has been spent by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on litigation in Court cases involving its employees, after September 1967 strike till date. (There was no strike in O.N.G.C in September 1968).

**Financial Assistance to Kerala for constructing Houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

7244. SHRI M.K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of financial assistance given to Kerala State for constructing houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the year 1969-70 and 1970-71;

(b) whether Government have a plan to increase the quantum of financial assistance to Kerala for that purpose; and

(c) if so, the extent thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Under the Centrally sponsored programme there is a composite scheme for the improvement of working and living conditions of persons engaged in unclean occu