

Mozambique in their fight against Portuguese colonialism ; and

(b) whether Government propose to render only moral support ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). As the House has been informed on several occasions, the Government of India have rendered, and shall continue to render, to the extent possible, material assistance to the liberation movements in Africa. The assistance rendered has included supplies of medicines, blankets cloth, stationary for school children, as also scholarships to enable students to pursue training and higher studies in India.

Annual Conference of Psychiatric Society

875. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Psychiatric Society in its 23rd annual conference held in January, this year strongly condemned the legislation and appealed for its removal, under which patients mentally ill should obtain certificates from Magistrates before being admitted to mental hospitals ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A. K. KISKU) : (a) Yes.

(b) A proposal to replace the existing Indian Lunacy Act of 1912 by the Mental Health Act on the lines of modern psychiatric thinking is under consideration.

Legislation and Organisational set up to prevent Food Adulteration

876. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND

FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) be pleased state :

(a) whether the present legislation and set-up are found inadequate for prevention of food adulteration which is being practised by unscrupulous merchants, especially in the urban areas ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring in effective legislation and set-up adequate machinery to enforce the same ; and

(c) the number of inspectorate staff and laboratories for analysis of food articles and whether Government are thinking of increasing them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAY) : (a) and (b). The provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, which have already been made more stringent, are found adequate for prevention of food adulteration. There is no proposal to make any major changes in the Act at present. The existing set-up for the implementation of food laws, however, require further strengthening. In this connection, the following steps are being taken :—

- (1) A Central Unit for Prevention of Food Adulteration has been recently set up to check the menace of food adulteration in co-operation with the State Health Authorities. The Unit will be mainly concerned with the functions prescribed in Rule 9 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules in respect of inter-State offences and will help in giving technical guidance to the State Governments.
- (2) The various State/Union Territory Governments have formulated their own proposals, in the State sector of the 4th Five Year Plan, for strengthening the existing set-

up for implementation of food laws.

(c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Non-Availability of Medicines in Government Hospitals in Delhi

877. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether frequent reports are received about the non-availability of essential medicines in the Government hospitals/dispensaries in Delhi ;

(b) whether reports are also being received by Government that the medicines which are being supplied in these hospitals/dispensaries are sub-standard ; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure that medicines of good standard are supplied to these hospitals in adequate quantity ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A.K. KISKU): (a) No.

(b) Medicines of standard quality are made available through the Government hospitals/dispensaries. No complaints have been received about the quality of medicines supplied.

(c) Does not arise.

Facilities to Societies to help in Propaganda for Family Planning and Birth Control

878. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the facilities being offered to the Societies or Associations who are prepared

to help in the Plan and Propaganda for Family Planning and Birth Control.

(b) whether any allocation has been made for this purpose ; and

(c) if so, to whom such assistance has been given in the last Financial Year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIWAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) Government recognise the important role which these bodies can and do play in the implementation of the national family planning programme. It is Government's policy to consider these voluntary organisations (which are usually registered societies) as partners in this national programme and extend to them all possible help for carrying on their work.

Accordingly voluntary bodies are given 100% grant-in-aid by the State Governments to whom the authority for giving such grants has been delegated, for running family planning service centres and for training of personnel. Family Planning motivational material, audiovisual aids and literature are also supplied on request. Grants are also sanctioned for special types of activities, e.g., holding of family planning seminars and conferences to discuss specific problems. Grants are also given to a few voluntary organisations for running sterility treatment centres.

(b) Yes.

(c) Full details regarding the assistance given in 1970-71 by the States/Union Territories to voluntary organisations under the delegated powers are not available. However, during that year, the Government of India sanctioned to the various voluntary Organisations engaged in the training of the Auxiliary Nurse Midwives grant-in-aid totalling Rs. 30 lakhs approximately. Grant-in-aid of Rs. 67,000 was also sanctioned to the Indian Medical Association, New Delhi for conducting family planning orientation training courses for medical personnel.