

(b) if so, what steps have been or are being taken to prevent this calamity ;

(c) how many refugee children have already died of under-nourishment ; and

(d) what arrangements are there for the protection of the children in various Refugee Camps ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) Yes, the Executive Director did express concern about the possibility of a large number of deaths amongst refugee children due to mal-nutrition.

(b) and (d). A special supplementary feeding programme and a nutrition therapy scheme for the proper care of the children from the nutrition angle have been taken up. Supplementary feeding is given with a view to arresting malnutrition in time, before it reaches advanced stage requiring medical treatment. The Nutrition Therapy Scheme envisages 4 times feeding at specially set up centres of special food recipes having high protein content.

(c) Information regarding death of refugee children due to malnutrition only is not readily available.

Primary Education

165 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :
SHRI D. P. JADEJA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive plan for primary education is now being prepared by his Ministry ; and

(b) if so, the highlights of that plan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (PROF. D. P. YADAVA) : (a) and (b). The Ministry of Education proposes to prepare separate plans for the development of primary education for each State. Necessary data are being collected. The intention is to prepare a plan for

achieving universal primary education as early as possible and to improve quality.

Research Centres in Community Development Blocks

166. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is implementing a new scheme for setting up Research Project in Community Development Centres in various States ; and

(b) if so, names of the States and the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme known as Pilot Research Project in Growth Centres is being implemented by the Government through the Department of Community Development.

(b) The names of the States and 'Blocks' selected as base areas may be noticed in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-971/71*].

The aim of the scheme is to evolve a broad research methodology and pattern for identifying Growth Centres and to indicate how the growth potential of these centres can be promoted through a comprehensive and scientific study of overall development needs and to weave these Centres meaningfully into the frame-work of the District Plan. A Plan provision of Rs. 145 lakhs has been made for implementing the Project. This includes an amount of Rs. 72.65 lakhs for creation of basis amenities in all these 20 centres.

Farms Organised by State Farms Corporation

167. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farms organised by the State Farms Corporation in the country ; and

(b) the places where they are located ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI