

(iii) **Coronary Club of Rotary West.**

The increasing incidence of heart disease may be due to changing socio-economic conditions in the country. The incidence, however, in India is much below the rate of heart disease in Western Countries. Steps are afoot to educate the public on preventive aspects of heart disease through audiovisual media i.e., T. V. Programme, Lectures, Press, Exhibitions etc. Cardiac Clinics are being established in bigger hospitals in the country.

**Licensed Bengali Porters in Calcutta Port**

3603. **SHRI R. N. BARMAN** : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licensed Bengali porters working at present in Calcutta Port ;

(b) whether Government propose to recruit porters in Calcutta Port through local employment exchange in place of recruiting them through contractors ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :**

(a) Such information is not available.

(b) and (c). No recruitment is now being made, as the Calcutta Port has surplus labour looking to the requirements of traffic. If and when labour is recruited, this will be done through the Employment Exchange.

**मुर्शिदाबाद में भूख से मृत्यु**

3604. **श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 29 जुलाई, 1972 के 'बीर अर्जुन' में प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि एक कांग्रेसी विधायक ने पश्चिम बंगाल विधान सभा में कहा है कि मुर्शिदाबाद में 3 व्यक्ति भूख से मर गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस आरोप की अपने सूत्रों से जांच कराई है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस बारे में वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है और इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

**कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णा-साहिब पो० शिन्दे) :** (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) और (ग). पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि उन्हें जिला मजिस्ट्रेट, मुर्शिदाबाद ने बताया है कि मुर्शिदाबाद में कोई व्यक्ति भूख से नहीं मरा है ।

**Reserve of Water Resources underneath the Desert**

3605. **SHRI N. K. P. SALVE** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the hydrogeological studies, there are vast reserves of water underneath the desert and it is possible to draw about 32 million litres of water a day from these reservoirs ;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to tap this source of water ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) :** (a). According to Hydrogeological studies conducted with the U. N. D. P. (SF) assistance there are no vast reserves of water underneath the desert of Rajasthan. It is, however, possible to draw about 32 million litres of water a day from Lathibasin area (Jaisalmer-Barmer area) in Western Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). The reports prepared under the UNDP (SF) assisted project have been sent to the State Government and the State Government is preparing schemes to utilise the available ground water in this area.

**Agreement with U. S. S. R. for Development of Fishing Industry**

3606. **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India and