

(c) and (d). The Indian Council of Medical Research has carried out a few studies on oral contraceptives. The report thereof is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1813/67.]

**RESERVE BANK'S PLAN FOR ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS**

2547. **SHRI D. N. PATODIA :**  
**SHRI RANDHIR SINGH :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has formulated a plan for giving necessary assistance to farmers to mechanise their agricultural operations;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be implemented?

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) :** (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank has not formulated any scheme of direct assistance to farmers for the purpose. However, the Reserve Bank, as also the Agricultural Refinance Corporation, supports the debenture programme of land mortgage banks, which advance long term loans for the purchase of agricultural machinery such as tractors, power tillers, pump sets and other costly farm equipment. The Industrial Development Bank a subsidiary of the Reserve Bank, also provides re-finance facilities to commercial banks financing sales of agricultural implements on deferred payment terms. Under the latter scheme, there is no minimum amount for a transaction, the maximum being Rs. 50 lakhs in respect of a single purchaser over a year. The maximum period of deferred payment is 7 years.

**VENEREAL DISEASES CONTROL IN INDIA**

2548. **SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :** Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the plan from which the Venereal Diseases Control Programme started

and total expenditure incurred during each Plan up to 1967-68;

(b) the number of States which have undertaken venereal diseases control measures in India; and

(c) the number of Venereal Diseases Clinics receiving 'P.A.M.' medicine from the Director General of Health Services to meet their requirements?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) :** (a) The Venereal Diseases Control Programme was started from the First Five Year Plan.

During the First Five Year Plan a provision of Rs. 3.26 lakhs was made for the establishment of an Antigen Production Unit. The provision was fully utilised. During subsequent Plans, the following provision was made :—

Second Plan	..	Rs. 95.71 lakhs
Third Plan	..	Rs. 58.24 lakhs

The following Central assistance has been released to the States for this programme during the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 :

1966-67	..	Rs. 11.00 lakhs
1967-68	..	Rs. 10.50 lakhs

As the Programme was classified as Centrally-aided from the Second Five Year Plan onwards, the actual expenditure incurred by the States in connection with the implementation of the Programme is not known.

(b) 16 States/Union Territories undertook V.D. Control Programme in India during the Second Plan. During the Third Plan 9 States/Union Territories implemented the Programme.

(c) The number of V.D. Clinics receiving 'PAM' from the Government of India is as under :—

Second Plan	..	100 Clinics
Third Plan	..	142 lakhs (continuing)