

(b) On the basis of the epidemiological data there are 2.4 lakhs estimated cases of leprosy in the State of West Bengal. The district-wise information is not readily available.

(c) Institutionalisation of leprosy patients is not encouraged now-a-days. Only complicated cases are being hospitalised. There are 17 Leprosy Inpatient Institutions with 2506 beds in the State of West Bengal. Besides, 23 Leprosy Control Units are functioning in the State under the National Leprosy Programme.

(d) With a view to control the spread of leprosy in the country, the National Leprosy Control Programme was launched in the country in 1955 in collaboration with the State/Union Territory Governments. This programme has been made a Centrally Sponsored programme since the beginning of the Fourth Five Year Plan with 100% Central assistance to the States. Under the National Leprosy Control Programme, 208 Leprosy Control Units, 1298 Survey Education and Treatment Centres have been established. Besides, a number of voluntary organisations working in the field of leprosy are also getting grant-in-aid from the Government of India.

Efficacy Of Urea as a Human Contraceptive

*1641. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efficacy of Urea as a human contraceptive has been proved; and

(b) if so, what would be the unit cost of this contraceptive ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS & HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) The Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, has developed a

contraceptive device named as "Centsquare" in which urea is the main effective ingredient. The efficacy of this device is under clinical trials at present. However, in laboratory experiments, urea has been found to be an effective spermicidal agent.

(b) Centsquare is at present being prepared in Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, on a very small scale for clinical trials. The present unit cost is stated to be less than one paisa.

ECOSOC Meeting and Bangla Desh Refugees

*1642. SHRI K. MALLANNA :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 51st Session of the Economic and Social Council at its meeting held in Geneva had discussed the problem of East Bengal refugees;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion; and

(c) whether any resolution has been passed ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No resolution was adopted, but the discussion succeeded in :

(1) Focussing world attention on the gravity and urgency of the problems raised by the massive influx of refugees into India and, in particular, emphasising the fact that the matter has become a question of international concern ;

- (2) Securing full recognition of the magnitude and complexity of the problems and, in this context, highlighting the burden imposed on India and the need for a much larger flow of international assistance to India; and
- (3) Getting the international community to acknowledge that the speedy voluntary return of the refugees under credible guarantees of safety is imperative and that to secure this, necessary conditions will have to be created in East Bengal.

Construction of Houses in Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi.

* 1643. SHRI N.K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether because of unresolved differences between Delhi Land and Finance Company and Government for over a number of years the plot holders of Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi have been denied the right of construction of houses in all the blocks except in 'E' block;

(b) whether during the period of dispute between the company and Government, the cost of construction has gone up by nearly 70 per cent and any further delay is going to affect the plot holders more adversely; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to resolve all their differences within a specified date and give permission to the plot holders for starting the construction of houses ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH & FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) Building activity in blocks

other than 'E' Block, has not been allowed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as the colonisers have not provided services complete according to the approved services plans.

(b) The cost of construction has been going up but it is not possible to indicate the exact extent of rise.

(c) Government have no differences with the colonisers. The colonisers were required to complete the laying of services within a period of one year from the date of approval of the layout by the corporation. They have been allowed extension of one year by the Corporation to provide the services up to the required standard. The extended period would expire in December, 1971 and it is expected that the colonisers will provide the required services within the extended period.

Abolition of Contract system in M.E.S.

*1644. SHRI KRISHNA HALDER : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to abolish the contract system in M.E.S. ; and

(b) if so, from when ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Budget Provision for Ghadar Party Memorial in U.S.A.

*1645. SHRI B.S. BHAURA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :