

Cholera Epidemic

*1419. **Shri Sradhakur Sapkar:**
Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a widespread out-break of Cholera epidemic in several parts of the country recently;

(b) if so, the precautionary and preventive measures taken this year; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Planning and Urban Development (Dr. S. Chandrasekhar): (a) There has been no abnormal rise in the incidence of Cholera except an outbreak of this disease in August, 1966, in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) A medical team was immediately deputed to investigate and help in the control of the disease. The measures taken to control the disease included

(i) a mass anti-Cholera inoculation campaign with the additional help of local army medical authorities, (ii) intensive health education campaign, (iii) regular periodic disinfection of drinking water sources, (iv) improvement of sanitation and anti-fly measures, (v) food hygiene drive, (vi) quarantine restrictions, (vii) restrictions on inter-island as well as on main-land traffic, (viii) air-lifting of Cholera Vaccine from Calcutta and Central Research Institute, Kasauli, and (ix) temporary posting of additional nursing personnel and providing full quota of medical and public health officers in the territory.

(c) Does not arise.

Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*1420. **Shri P. R. Thakur:**
Shri A. K. Kiskur:

Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Special Officer" or the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is intended to look after the political safeguards

provided in the Constitution for these people;

(b) whether his unique position of power and responsibility for this purpose has been statutorily laid down or codified so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phalrenu Guha): (a) and (b). Article 338 of the Constitution clearly indicates the duties and functions of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The duties and functions thus statutorily prescribed are to investigate into and report to the President on the working of all safeguards provided in the Constitution for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) Does not arise.

Development Loans from U.S.A.I.D.

*1421. **Shri Vasudevvan Nair:**
Shri C. Janardhanan:
Shri P. C. Adichan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Agency for International Development has agreed to provide to India development loans at a higher level in 1968 as compared to the previous years;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of loan from the U.S. Agency for International Development;

(c) whether any pre-conditions are laid down for providing these loans; and

(d) if so, what they are?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). The Aid Consortium in its meeting held at Paris on April 4-6, 1967, after reviewing India's overall aid requirements for 1967-68 was of the opinion that for planning purposes a target of approximately \$1,300 million (including food) for new aid to be provided in non-project form

was appropriate. Of this, excluding food and related assistance which are also non-project assistance, the aid for maintenance requirements is expected to be \$900 million for 1967-68. The contribution of each of the members of the Consortium will be made known after the completion of necessary legislative and governmental action in the respective countries. The share of U.S. contribution to the said non-project assistance has not yet been announced.

2. The Consortium did not consider project aid. As and when projects get ready, proposals for aid financing are taken up on an ad-hoc basis.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Steel Pipes for Barauni Oil Refinery

*1422. Shri Kameshwar Singh:
Shri A. Sreedharan:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a consignment of steel pipes intended for the Barauni Oil Refinery which reached Calcutta Port was auctioned by the Port authorities;

(b) whether this matter was taken up by the Soviet officials here during the construction period; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Import of Crude Oil

* 1423. Shri M. Amersey: Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import crude oil and refine it in the Indian refineries which have an idle capacity of 3 million tonnes and thus

reduce dependence on the Soviet Union for the supply of kerosene oil; and

(b) whether it is a fact that kerosene refining in India, by either importing crude oil or by supplying it from our own oil-fields is far cheaper than importing it from the U.S.S.R.?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). The answer to (a) is in the negative. The production of all fuel products, excepting kerosene, from the existing refineries in the country, at their present throughputs, is more than adequate to meet the current requirements of the country. Since virtually all the indigenous crude being produced is being utilised, it will not be possible to increase refinery throughputs save by further imports of crude oil. Such imports will be far more costly than the import of the gap in kerosene supply.

लेखाबाह्य धन का पता लगाना

* 1424. डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :
श्री रवि राय :

क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या उन्हें लेखा बाह्य धन का पता लगाने के बारे में कुछ फिल्म निर्माताओं और निदेशकों से कुछ सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वित्त मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त): (क) जी, हां। लेखा बाह्य धन को बाहर निकालने के बारे में एक सुझाव एक फिल्म निर्माता तथा निदेशक से प्राप्त हुआ था।

(ख) सुझाव स्वीकार करने योग्य नहीं पाया गया।