

Bund, and works for constructing ring bunds around villages and the improvement of Najafgarh drain are in hand. The Haryana Government has also taken up the construction of ring bunds around villages and commenced preliminary works for the Masani Barrage. Work on the Bhubania-Mundela drain has also been started by Haryana Government.

The proposals covered in the Master Plan have already been considered in an inter-State meeting held on 8th June, 1978 under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation when a broad agreement was reached on the elements of the Plan and it was agreed to implement the Plan expeditiously.

(b) Although the major elements of the Master Plan are expected to be completed in about four years, the essential works for the protection of Delhi such as enlargement of the Najafgarh drain are expected to be substantially completed before the 1980 monsoon.

Population of Displaced Persons in West Bengal

218. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total population of displaced persons in West Bengal in 1967 and what is the refugee population now;

(b) what is the total amount so far allocated by the Central Government for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from the erstwhile East Pakistan and Bangladesh;

(c) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government have urged upon the Central Government to grant Rs. 500 crores to the State Government during 1979-81 for tackling the problem of displaced persons in that State;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the West Bengal Government have

approached the Central Government to write off the loan of Rs. 180 crores so far advanced to the State for relief and rehabilitation of these persons; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action Central Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) According to information available, total number of migrants in West Bengal in 1967 was 36.97 lakhs and in January 1978—37.87 lakhs.

(b) An amount of Rs. 492.13 crores has been spent on the relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons from former East Pakistan and Bangladesh in West Bengal upto 31-3-1978

A provision of Rs. 191.88 lakhs has been made for expenditure on continuing schemes in West Bengal during the year 1978-79.

(c) to (e) The Government of West Bengal have urged upon the Seventh Finance Commission to grant Rs. 500 crores to the State during 1979-84 for tackling the problem of the displaced persons in the State; they have also requested that the entire amount of rehabilitation loans outstanding for repayment to the Government of India should be written off in full and the remission scheme extended to all relief and rehabilitation loans which are not recoverable. This matter is under examination by the Finance Commission.

Health hazard posed by germs and virus-laden garbage

219. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey regarding the health hazards posed by germs and