

(b) if so, the details thereof? THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND

CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री

(SHRI P.C. SETHI): (a) and (b) An agreement was signed, in February, 1971, between Government and M/s. Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd. of Japan, for the construction and supply of a self-propelled, self-elevating offshore drilling vessel of "Mercury" type. This vessel will be built in the shipyard of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. The vessel is capable of drilling in water depth upto 80 metres in the Arabian sea adjoining the Gulf of Cambay and the drilling rig mounted on it is capable of drilling upto 6100 metres (20,000 ft.) depth. The drilling vessel is expected to be delivered in Japan at the end of September, 1971. Its cost inclusive of drilling rig and machinery and jacking system is Rs. 10.9875 crores. Another contract has been signed with the American firm, Offshore International S. A. Houston which would provide technical Assistance for drilling, using this drilling vessel, for a period of one year and to train Indian drillers and technicians in Offshore operations.

IMPORT OF U.A.R. CRUDE

115. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI SUHRID MULICK CHOU

DHARY: KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND

CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (SHRI P. C. SETHI): be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 811 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th June, 1971 and state.

(a) the present stage of the negotiation with U.A.R. and U.S.S.R. in respect of import of crude;

(b) by when it is expected to be finalised; and

(c) the results yielded by the efforts to obtain crude from other sources?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री

(SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c) The talks with U.A.R. and U.S.S.R. regarding import of crude are still continuing. It will be sometime before the negotiations are concluded and results are known.

DEATH OF REFUGEES DUE TO CHOLERA

116. SHRI MAHITOSH PURAKAYASTHA:

SHRI RAM SAHAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY

PLANNING/स्वास्थ्य और परिवार

नियोजन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees from Bangla Desh who died in different camps due to cholera and other epidemics so far; and

(b) the arrangements which have been made so far for the improvement of sanitary conditions in the camps and in line towns in the States of West Bengal, Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya where there have been heavy concentration of refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING/

(PROF.

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

D. P.

CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) There have been reports of deaths due to cholera and gastro-enteritis. The available information in this regards is as follows;

Name of State	No. of deaths
West Bengal (Among evacuees in Hospitals and Health Centres)	4,576 (upto 15-7-1971)
Assam	15 (upto 15-5-1971)
Meghalaya	592 (upto 15-6-1971)
Tripura	1 (upto 6-6-1971)
Madhya Pradesh (Mana Camp)	5 (upto 25-6-1971)

(b) Action has been taken to improve the housing, water supply, latrines, garbage collection and disposal as given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Measures to be taken for housing the refugees from East Bengal

CINF.RAL

(1) Not more than 5,000 persons should be kept in any one camp for effective control of the problem posed by the evacuees.

(2) The site should be easily accessible from a main road and be such as to facilitate easy drainage.

Tents

(3) Though tents are to be put up as an emergency measure, it is preferable to go in for semi-pucca construction with galvanised corrugated iron sheet roofing supported on bamboo roof frame-work on bamboo poles.