

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether it is also a fact that the disease has not yet been diagnosed by any doctor and that no remedy has yet been found for it; and

(c) if so, what steps have Government already taken and propose to take to diagnose the disease and find a remedy for it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) to (c) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) There is an epidemic of a dengue-like illness in Madras City. Though there has been a very large number of cases, no death has so far been reported from this disease.

(b) The disease is caused by a virus known as chikungunya virus and is transmitted by *aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. The disease is generally associated with severe pain particularly in joints. There is no specific treatment so far found for the disease.

(c) A team of experts from the Virus Research Centre, Poona, visited several hospitals in Madras City and has isolated the virus associated with the disease and also identified it.

The State Government have been advised to take by anti-aedes measures.

ECONOMY ON IRRIGATION AND POWER PROJECTS

\*375. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recommendations of the Finance Ministry to effect economy in expenditure, the Irrigation and Power Ministry have decided to have any cut in expenditure on irrigation and power projects, included in the current plan; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) and (b) The efforts for economy initiated by the Ministry of Finance relate to expenditure of the Central Ministries. The budget estimates of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power provides for the Damodar Valley Scheme, the Farakka Barrage Project and the Trisuli Hydro-Electric project. No cut is proposed to be effected in the provisions for these schemes.

SEARCH OF THE HOUSE OF FILM ACTRESS VYJAYANTIMALA

\*376. SHRI G. M. MIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officials of the Enforcement Directorate searched the house of film actress Vyjayantimala in Alwarpet on 6th September, 1964; and

(b) if so, whether any document has been seized from her possession?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) The Enforcement Directorate of Foreign Exchange Regulations searched the house of Miss Vyjayantimala at Madras on the 4th and 5th September, 1964.

(b) Yes, Sir.

HEMAVATI PROJECT IN MYSORE STATE

377. SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hemavati Project to construct a high-level Dam across the Hemavati river in Mysore State has been finally approved by the Central Government for implementation;

(b) the estimated cost of the Project;