

headache, muscular pain and extreme weakness, has been in epidemic form in Calcutta for more than two months;

(b) if so, whether the disease has been diagnosed; and

(c) what remedial measures have been undertaken to check the spread of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) and (b) Cases of fever with peripheral circulatory failure or haemorrhage from various tissues were reported in Calcutta ever since the 2nd week of July, 1963. Most of the cases were mild but some were of a very serious nature. There have been several deaths mainly among young and adolescent children. From available data, it would appear that the incidence is gradually diminishing.

Investigation of the causes of this disease is in progress in the School of Tropical Medicine, and the Institute of Post-graduate Medicine, Calcutta. The Virus Research Centre, Poona, is also co-operating in this investigation. A team of the Central Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi, has also visited the city to conduct epidemiological investigations into the several factors involved in the spread of the epidemic. As a result of the investigation so far carried out, it would appear that the epidemic is due to a virus presumably belonging to the Dengue fever group of viruses. The investigations are still in progress and attempts are being made to isolate the virus.

(c) The following remedial measures have been undertaken to check the spread of the disease:—

1. Hospitalisation of acute cases.
2. Intensive search for other cases by home-visits. A number of Public Health personnel under

two trained Epidemiologists are at work, which included collection of data from hospitals, private practitioners and from all other sources.

3. An elaborate Entomological Organisation has been set up for search of breeding places of mosquitoes, specially of the "aedes type". Mosquitoes after being trapped, are being supplied, to the Laboratories for animal test.
4. Air-crafts from the East are sprayed by the Air Port Health Authorities. Breeding areas of aedes within the Air-fields are being attended to.
5. The Engineering College Hostel was closed for disinsectisation. The port areas are being attended to.

SHORTAGE OF HOUSES FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS IN NAGPUR

531. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of houses for Central Government officers in Nagpur;

(b) whether it is a fact that in many cases two officers have been asked to share a single bungalow;

(c) whether it is the usual practice to allot garage to one officer and porch to the other to park their cars in cases where they share the same bungalow; and

(d) whether any complaints regarding allotment of garages to officers of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser are pending for a long time?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). Where the accommodation in a bungalow is very large, officers eligible for Type V accommodation i.e. drawing emoluments of Rs. 700 to 1299 are allotted half bungalows. The accommodation thus made available to an officer is generally not less than the scales laid down for this category of accommodation. All Type V houses are not provided with a separate garage. Even in Delhi provision has been made for garages for only for about 50 per cent of Type V houses. If two officers sharing the same bungalow both own cars, they share the garage and the porch by mutual arrangements for parking of their cars. Generally, the senior officer gets the use of the garage.

IMPORT OF STEEL UNDER BARTER

532. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value and quantity of steel imported under barter and link deals; and

(b) the prices at which they were sold in the internal market?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) The value and quantity of steel imported under barter deals during 1962-63 and 1963-64 (upto October) are as follows:—

	Value (Rs. crores)	Quantity (M. tons.)
1962-63	3.17	35 857
1963-64	1.32	17 313
(upto Oct. 1963)		

(b) The prices of steel imported are regulated by the Iron and Steel Controller. The importer is not allowed to retain any amount in excess of the full landed cost plus permissible remuneration.

IMPORT OF COTTON, WOOL AND ART SILK TEXTILE MACHINERY FROM U.S.S.R.

533. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to import cotton, wool and art silk textile machinery from the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, whether any foreign exchange has been released for the purpose; and

(c) whether imports will be made by private parties?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Imports are under rupee payment arrangement in terms of the Trade Agreement between India and U.S.S.R.

(c) Yes, Sir; by actual users only.

FLOOD FORECASTING UNIT ON THE RIVER NARMADA

534. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to page 6 of the Annual Report of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and state the results of the examination by the Central Water and Power Commission of the proposal to set up a flood forecasting unit on the river Narmada?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): The results of the examination of the proposals to set up flood forecasting unit for river Narmada are:

1. It is possible to establish a flood forecasting unit for river Narmada to forecast floods at Navgaon and Broach in Gujarat and Mandla, Hoshangabad and Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.

2. It is desirable to adopt simple forecasting methods. More scientific methods may be tried if these do not give satisfactory results.

3. It is necessary to establish additional rain gauge stations at specific places and a few self-recording and radio-operated river and rain gauges for expeditious supply of essential data.

4. It is desirable to have forecasting on the river Narmada under a unified authority to facilitate co-or-