

Rs. A. p.

- (5) The Red Cross Society of China .. 1,91,570 0 0
- (6) The Government of the Republic of Czechoslovakia ... 20,000 0 0
- (7) The Premier of Queensland Brisbane, Australia .. 10,666 10 8
- (8) People of Fiji through the Commissioner of India 60,220 13 0

(b) Government have given assistance to other countries during the current year as follows:—

Rs. 1,00,000 in kind to Pakistan. Rs. 40,000 in kind of Indonesia.
Rs. 20,000 in kind to the Philippines.
£ 2,000 in cash to Australia.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Am I to understand that all aid and assistance flowing out of India is only on governmental level?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it not a fact that the Government recognises that the assistance coming to India from other countries should also be through governmental channel?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: All the assistance that comes to India comes not to the Government but to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund, which is not of the Government.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is the Government aware that there are a few other funds also?

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: It is mentioned even in this statement that it is not only the Prime Minister's Relief Fund but also the Red Cross Society Fund which receives assistance. Is the Government not aware of the assistance coming through other private agencies and does not

the Government recognise the necessity of this assistance coming only through the governmental channels?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, the statement fully explains the amount received by the Government. We have no information of the amount coming to the Indian Red Cross Society.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The question is how the amount is received.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The statement says, these were received by the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund but they are not received by the Red Cross Fund of India.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Am I to understand that all assistance coming from foreign countries is only through the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, or that the Government is not aware of any assistance coming through any other agency?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There may be other agencies, I cannot say.

*579. [The questioner (Shri Deoki-nandan Narayan) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 3995-3996 infra.]

AIR-DROPPING OF FOODSTUFFS IN NORTH EAST FRONTIER AGENCY

*580. SHRI R. THANHLIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether the articles air-dropped in the North East Frontier Agency Area are supplied free of cost or on payment basis?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): A major portion of the air-dropped stores are either free issue rations on sanctioned scales for Assam Rifles and the Agency Service Corps' personnel or rations meant for sale to the staff and tribal people. Some of the air-dropped items are also meant for distribution as free relief.

SHRI R. THANHLIRA: May I know, Sir, when these articles are disposed of locally whether air freight is also charged?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No Sir.

SHRI R. THANHLIRA: May I know, Sir, whether proper accounts and details are kept as to how these articles are disposed of in the localities?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Certainly. Till recently the procedure was that contractors were appointed and they were responsible for the positioning and distribution of these articles. But this procedure was not found satisfactory. Now we have established a Directorate at Jorhat under the Director of Supply and Transport, who is an officer of the rank of a Lieut-Colonel of the Army Service Corps

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know, Sir, the value of the articles airdropped?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The value is not known but it was 1,414 maunds.

SHRI R. THANHLIRA: May I know, Sir, whether the supply of foodstuff is so insufficient that S.O.S. has to be sent off and on?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information.

DISPENSARIES IN NORTH EAST FRONTIER AGENCY

*581. SHRI R. THANHLIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of existing dispensaries in the North East Frontier Agency?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI

MENON): There are 49 dispensaries in the NEFA. In addition there are 24 hospitals, 24 mobile health units, 12 itinerating medical units and 4 leprosy colonies,

SHRI R. THANHLIRA: May I know, Sir, whether these dispensaries and hospitals are popular amongst the tribal people?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Must be popular because 2½ lakhs out of the 8 lakhs of people are treated by these hospitals and dispensaries.

SHRI R. THANHLIRA: May I know, Sir, what are the common ailments treated in these dispensaries?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Malaria, diarrhoea, dysentery, T.B., V.D., Kala-azar, etc.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the total number of beds, number of doctors and the number of nurses?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There are 390 beds. There is one doctor for a population of 9,000 and one bed for every 2,100 of the population.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the Government considers this to be adequate for giving medical assistance to the people?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The Government does not consider this adequate. Therefore, there is a provision in the Second Five Year Plan for more doctors.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What will happen to the people between now and the Second Five Year Plan?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: They will be medically treated with the existing facilities and these will be progressively increased in the Second Five Year Plan