

jects have been completed. Such imbalance is likely to be further rectified with the development of Inter-State or regional grids enabling transfer of surplus power to deficit areas. Steps in this direction have already been initiated.

#### Grafting of Human Tissues

\*671. **Shrimati Vimla Devi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any measures to encourage the grafting of human tissues like cornea, blood vessels etc. taken from dead bodies shortly after death;

(b) whether there is any legislation in the country which enables the removal and preservation of such tissues from dead bodies especially those who die in hospitals; and

(c) whether in view of the invaluable contribution such grafting of tissues can provide for the cure of certain diseases like blindness, what steps Government propose to take to popularise these?

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** (a) On the recommendations of the Central Council of Health, the Government of India have commended to the State Governments and Administrations the desirability of taking legislative and educational action for the promotion of Corneal Grafting. No measure for grafting of any other human tissues has been taken by the Government.

(b) So far suitable legislation on Corneal Grafting has been enacted by the Governments of Maharashtra, Madras, Orissa and Bihar only.

(c) State Governments and Administrations have been advised to take steps to popularise the measures for Corneal Grafting through Health Exhibitions, posters, photographs and mass circulation of literature on the subject. Government have circulated a pamphlet on the subject of Corneal Grafting entitled "EYE BANK". A feature on Corneal Grafting and Eye Bank entitled "NETRADAN" has been broadcast from the Delhi Station

of All India Radio. A film on the subject of Eye Bank and Corneal Transplantation entitled "GIFT OF SIGHT" has been recently released through the Films Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for exhibition in Commercial Theatres in India.

#### Opium Addicts in NEFA

\*672. **Shri D. Ering:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of opium addicted permit-holders in North East Frontier Agency;

(b) whether Government are going to have some dispensaries for the treatment of these addicted persons; and

(c) the measures Government are taking to stop opium addiction?

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** (a), (b) & (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

#### Thermal Station at Talcher

\*673. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether all preliminary investigations have been completed for the location of a Thermal station at Talcher;

(b) when the work is likely to start; and

(c) whether it is likely to be completed during the Third Five Year Plan?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary works have already been started.

(c) The project is likely to be completed by the end of the Third Plan.