

(b) The following measures have been taken by the State Government to prevent outbreak of epidemics:

- (i) Under rural water supply, a scheme has been sanctioned for Mavoor village which is on the right bank of the river.
- (ii) For the population living on the left bank of the river another scheme is under consideration of the State Government.
- (iii) The factory whose effluents pollute the water of the river has been directed to treat their waste suitably before discharging them into the river.

#### Koottayi Irrigation Project

**518. Shri Mohammed Koya:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government have taken any final decision with regard to the Koottayi Irrigation project; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to expedite the construction of the project in view of the present food shortage?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):** (a) and (b). No scheme known as Koottayi Irrigation Project is under consideration of the Government of Kerala. Proposals for constructing a Regulator to prevent saline ingress into Tanur Kottai Canal are, however, under consideration of the State Government.

#### Rent in Low Income Group

**519. Shri Yaspal Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the exorbitant rent prevalent in big cities,

Government have any proposal to bring some legislation for controlling the rent in low income group housing, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) and (b). This is a matter which concerns the State Governments who have their own rent control laws. So far as the Union Territory of Delhi is concerned, the fixation of rents is already covered under the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958.

#### Profiteering in Land

**520. Shri Warrior:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5540-B on the 12th May, 1966 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken regarding the proposal to bring legislation to stop profiteering on land in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna)** (a) and (b). A committee, consisting of Ministers of the Governments of West Bengal, Madras, Maharashtra and Punjab and senior officers of the Central Government, examined the question of urban land policy. The committee recommended *inter alia*, amendment of the existing legislation concerning control, regulation and compulsory acquisition of land; enactment of town planning law by each State Government; passing of legislation for controlling ribbon development along highways; and bulk acquisition of land in urban areas. Copies of the report of the committee have already been forwarded to the State Governments for necessary action.