

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know if, apart from the recommendations of the expert, Government have their own scheme of vocational training for plantation labourers?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir, we are giving serious consideration to this matter.

TUBE WELLS IN PUNJAB (AID)

*785. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of aid sought by the State of the Punjab for the installation of tube-wells in the State; and,

(b) the aid sanctioned and made available to the State so far?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Since 1950-51, a total loan of Rs. 136.14 lakhs has been sanctioned to the Punjab Government for their tubewells construction schemes against Rs. 147.62 lakhs asked for.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know on what basis this grant for tubewells is allocated to the different States in India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: On the basis of what they want and what would be beneficial to the State and the country.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government of India gets any report from the State about the tube-wells that have been sunk or that are going to be sunk?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Very regularly; and if the schedule is not being observed we use all possible means of trying to get more progress.

लाला अचिन्त राम : जो रिपोर्ट अब तक पहुंची है क्या उस रिपोर्ट में हिसार का जिला भी शामिल किया गया है ?

काबल तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री किदवाई) : क्या हिसार में भी ट्यूब वेल बन रहे हैं ?

लाला अचिन्त राम : बनने चाहियें । वहां पानी नहीं पहुंचता है ।

श्री किदवाई : चाहिये का सवाल नहीं था । सवाल यह था कि कितना लोन मांगा गया था और कितना दिया गया ।

लाला अचिन्त राम : हिसार के लिये मांगा गया था लेकिन मिला नहीं ।

श्री किदवाई : हिसार के लिये शायद मांगा ही नहीं होगा ।

लाला अचिन्त राम : यह आप को गलतफहमी है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I won't allow four or five questions to the same Member at a time.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the sanctioned amount includes any amount from the Technical Co-operation Agreement?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, Sir.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether the tubewell scheme has been extended anywhere in the southern States, especially to Travancore-Cochin?

Shri Kidwai: In Travancore-Cochin there is more than enough water available.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: No, Sir, not in my constituency.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is a fact that an American firm under the name Harold T. Smith is doing this work in the Punjab, and, if so, whether it is a fact that they are being paid Rs. 29,000 per tubewell on the average, and whether it is not higher than the former rate?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is all correct, Sir.

श्री हेबा : जो रिपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट के पास समय समय पर आती है उस से क्या हुकूमत इस बात का अन्दाजा लगा सकती

है कि पंजाब में कितनी गहराई पर आम तौर पर पानी मिलता है और क्या ट्यूब वेल की स्कीम कामयाब हो रही है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : ट्यूबवेल का जो तरीका है वह ३००, ४०० फुट के नीचे से पानी लाता है और इस के लिये काफी गहराई में जाना पड़ता है।

Shri T. N. Singh: I believe this tube-well construction is in the T.C.A. scheme. May I know if it is obligatory for us to get these from or give the contracts for the construction to the American firm?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Not at all, Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether in the Punjab the American firms or the other firms could not perform their operations within the scheduled time?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There has been considerable delay. We had to assess the difficulties in the way, and at the present moment the progress is fairly satisfactory.

Shri Kelappan: What was the amount charged by the Associated Tubewells?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That contract was given at Rs. 25,000.

Shri Namdhari: Will the Government consider sanctioning tubewells for the Sirsa tehsil to rescue it from famine condition?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have not considered any such scheme. Such schemes if recommended by State Governments, including my hon. friend's Hissar district and other districts may come up for consideration later on. If the State Government wants them, probably they will be taken up at a later stage.

ADDRESSING OF LETTERS TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, COOCH BEHAR

*786. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether sometimes Central Government Departments address

letters to the Chief Minister or to the Chief Commissioner, Cooch Behar who do not exist now?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Yes; but suitable arrangements have been made for the delivery of such letters to the Deputy Commissioner, Cooch Behar, who is now the Administrative Head of the Cooch Behar District, and no difficulty is felt in the matter.

RAJASTHAN DESERT

*788. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how far the Desert Afforestation Research Station has proceeded to create a belt of trees near the western border of Rajasthan;

(b) how much area is proposed to be utilised for the creation of the belt;

(c) which sort of trees will withstand the onslaught of blown sand;

(d) what sort of help has been received from the International organisations; and

(e) whether maps have been drawn and acquisition proceedings completed?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Pending acquisition of private land included in the belt along the western border of Rajasthan, experimental sowing of the seeds of *prosopis juliflora* and of certain other xerophytic species was undertaken on 1st July, 1953 by aeroplane over a length of about 32 miles from Gadra Road to Girole.

(b) About 2,000 square miles.

(c) This is one of the functions of the Desert Afforestation Research Station which is actively engaged in ascertaining the species most suited for the purpose. The chances are that species of *prosopis*, *acacia* and those growing locally already would succeed.