

(d) Has any contract been given for any of them and if so, to whom?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) The 2,000 tubewells are to be constructed in the States of U.P., Bihar, Punjab and PEPSU. The number of tubewells allocated to each State is as follows:—

Uttar Pradesh	...	995
Bihar	...	350
Punjab	...	355
PEPSU	...	300
		2000
	TOTAL	...

(c) The U.S. share of financial assistance for this programme was estimated to be 13.7 million dollars; but this may ultimately be somewhat higher.

(d) The following contracts have been signed by the State Governments concerned with the contractors for the construction of 1505 tubewells on the dates shown against each:—

Name of State	Name of contractor	No. of tubewells contracted
(1) Uttar Pradesh	M/s. German Water Development Cooperation of West Germany.	500
(2) do.	M/s. Harold T. Smith Inc. of U. S. A.	200
(3) Punjab	do.	255
(4) PEPSU	do.	300
(5) Bihar	M/s. Associated Tubewells Ltd. of U. K.	250

The remaining 295 tubewells in U.P. and 100 tubewells each in Punjab and Bihar will be constructed departmentally by the respective State Governments with their own existing equipment and technical personnel.

#### AREA UNDER COTTON CULTIVATION

**590. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what was the total area under cotton cultivation in the years 1940, 1947,

1950 and 1952 of improved and ordinary varieties, separately?

(b) What percentage of the world supply of cotton is produced by India?

(c) What is the per acre yield of cotton in India?

(d) What percentage of cotton price remains with the grower and whether it affords sufficient incentive for him to extend his scope of cultivation?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) A statement showing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 44.]

(b) About 9 per cent.

(c) An average of 80 lbs. during the three years ending 1951-52.

(d) I am afraid I am not clear what percentage is referred to. A minimum price for the grower has been fixed.

#### AMBULANCE VANS FOR COLLIERY WORKERS IN MADHYA PRADESH

**591. Shri R. B. Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that the two Ambulance Vans supplied on Labour Welfare Account, for carrying the patients to Hospitals, to the District Chhindwara Coal Mines in Madhya Pradesh, have gone off the road since last one year?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that in the absence of these two Ambulance Vans there is no other satisfactory arrangement since last one year for the conveyance of the colliery patients and also for workers who meet with fatal accidents in the mines?

(c) By what probable time will the new Ambulance Vans be supplied?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) One van has been off the road for a year and the other since September 1952.

(b) No complaints on the subject have been received by Government.

(c) One van has been temporarily repaired. A new van will also be on the road very soon.

#### POSTMEN AND RUNNERS IN HYDERABAD

**592. Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the village postmen and