

(c) the States in which the said projects have been started by Central Ground Water Board, and

(d) whether there is any such projects in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) (a) to (d) The Central Ground Water Board (formerly Exptovratory Tubewells Organisation) is engaged in the exploration of the ground-water resources of the entire country right from 1954-55 This is a Central sector scheme with a total Fourth Plan provision of Rs 850 lakhs (net) Out of this Rs 261 57 lakhs have been spent during 1969-70 and 1970-71 Our Plan budget for the current year is Rs 370 lakhs (gross) The Central Ground Water Board is at present working through its five Divisions located at Ambala, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Madras and Ranchi It has also been authorised to take up three new projects from this year One project has been taken up with UNDP (SF) assistance for the quantitative assessment of the ground water resources of certain arid and semi-arid regions of Rajasthan and Gujarat In Rajasthan the project would cover an area of about 16 000 sq miles in the districts of Bikaner, Churu, Nagaur and Jhunjhunu and in Gujarat about 4,700 sq miles in Banaskantha and Mehsana districts The second project has been taken up with Canadian assistance and will cover an area of about 3,000 sq miles mostly around Hyderabad town in Andhra Pradesh and only a small part of it in the districts of Bidar and Gulbarga of Mysore This will be the first time that an attempt will be made to assess the ground water resources of an hard rock area The third project will cover the alluvial tracts of Narmada river basin in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh This year C G W B would be conducting exploration in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil

Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, U P, and Tripura Work is also likely to be taken up in Himachal Pradesh We may take exploratory work in Kashmir Valley and Kishtwar area if it would be possible to transport the requisite type of rig Upto 1970-71, Central Ground Water Board has constructed 911 exploratory and 1432 deposit wells in all

Manufacture of RS-09 Tractors

4913 SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the number of RS 09 tractors found defective which have been modified so far and

(b) the number of tractors which after modification are not giving good results and what Government propose to do with such units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) (a) According to the information available 1032 numbers of RS 09 tractors have already been modified

(b) The farmer-owners of RS 09 tractors and the various State Agro-Industries Corporations have desired return of modified RS-09 tractors because the performance of modified tractors was also not found satisfactory It has been decided to return those tractors and a Protocol to that effect was signed between the State Trading Corporation of India and the GDR Suppliers on 21st February 1971

आयतित लेल मे मिलाबट को रोकने के लिए उसमे रंग का मिलाया जाना

4914 श्री राम भगत पास्वान : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या भारतीय व्यापारियों द्वारा

अमरीका से आयातित किया गया 'व्हाइट आयल' और डालडा घी, सरसो के तेल और गोले के तेल में मिला कर बेचा जा रहा है ,

(ख) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि अप्रमिश्रित तेल का उपभोग किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप जनता को विभिन्न रोगों का शिकार होना पड़ता है जिसका डाक्टरों के पास कोई इलाज नहीं है और लोगों की अमामयिक मृत्यु हो जाती है;

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार आयातित तेल में कोई विशेष रंग मिलाने का है जिससे भारतीय व्यापारी मिलावट न कर सकें , और

(घ) यदि हा, तो ऐसा कब किया जाएगा ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णा-साहिब पी० शिन्दे) (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं होता ।

Directive to States to raise Minimum Wage.

4917 SHRI S M BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether in some of the States, the minimum wages are too low and have no relation with the rising cost of living.

(b) if so, whether any directive has been issued to the State Governments to raise the same; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the State Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR). (a) to (c) The minimum

wages differ from State to State depending upon the local conditions and other relevant factors. The State Governments have powers and it is their statutory responsibility, under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, to review and revise the wage rates at intervals not exceeding 5 years. No directive as such has been issued; but the State Governments have been advised from time to time to take action to review and revise the minimum wages wherever necessary

Enquiry into allegations against Managing Director, Punjab State Agro-Industries Corporation

4918 SHRI S M BANERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 5021 on the 17th December, 1970 and state :

(a) whether the enquiry into the allegations against the Managing Director, Punjab State Agro-Industries Corporation has since been completed by the Chief Secretary of the Punjab State,

(b) if so, the main findings of this enquiry, and

(c) the appropriate action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) to (c). Since the giving of the reply to Unstarred Question No 5021 dated 17th December, 1970 a number of further Complaints had been received against the Managing Director (who has since been transferred). All these complaints have also been forwarded to the Chief Secretary Government of Punjab and the Chairman, Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation for further necessary action. They have been requested to inform this Ministry of the action taken. Since the complaints are to be examined