

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

Munday, 29th July, 1957.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Shri D. C. Sharma-  
Shri H. N. Mukerjee.... Shri T. B.  
Vittal Rao.

[Shri D. C. Sharma, Shri H. N.  
Mukerjee and Shri T. B. Vittal Rao  
were absent]

Have we started too early today?

Shri Dasappa: There is a meeting  
in room No. 62 relating to Food and  
Agriculture.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: You were pleas-  
ed to rule that no meeting should be  
held when the House meets.

Mr. Speaker: I had said that no  
meeting should be held in the fore-  
noon, lest even at the outset I have  
to have the bell rung.

Shri C. E. Narasimhan: There is a  
party meeting.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The meeting  
started at 10 hours. It is being ter-  
minated now.

Mr. Speaker: They should have  
adjourned.

#### Tube-wells

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\*412. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri Jhansi Saha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agri-  
culture be pleased to state:

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(a) the States in which the exist-  
ing irrigation facilities from tube-  
wells are not being fully utilized;  
and

(b) the causes for the same?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr.  
P. S. Deshmukh): (a) in certain areas,  
in the States of Bihar and Punjab.

(b) The main cause is higher tube-  
well irrigation rates as compared to  
existing canal water rates. The other  
chief contributory factors are lack of  
sustained supply of electric power for  
running the tubewells; and lack of  
channels.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The Minis-  
ter has said that the chief reasons are  
higher water rates and lack of elec-  
tric power. May I know why the  
Government of India and the Gov-  
ernments of Punjab and Bihar did not  
finalise the water rates and better-  
ment levy on a rational basis? As  
the DVC and Bhakra-Nangal projects  
are going on in Bihar and Punjab,  
why is electric power not supplied to  
the tube-wells?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I admit there  
has not been as much expeditious  
action in this sphere as there should  
have been, but there are some inhe-  
rent difficulties also. Electric supply  
has been somewhat late in coming  
and insufficiently also. We have writ-  
ten to the State Governments. Es-  
sentially, the responsibility is of the  
State Governments. But both these  
States have now appointed commit-  
tees for looking into this. They have  
also ordered certain reduction in the  
rates.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The Minis-  
ter has just said that both these Gov-  
ernments have ordered certain reduc-  
tions in water rates. Is it true that

the incidence of reduced water rates is heavier on the peasants because previously the Government charged Rs. 15 per acre for five waterings of 80,000 gallons each and now they are charging Rs. 10 per acre for three waterings of 88,000 gallons each. So in what way have the water rates been reduced?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** Previously in the State of Bihar, the rates were as follows:

For rabi Rs. 5, kharif Rs. 10 and sugarcane Rs. 18. For tube-wells: rabi Rs. 8, kharif Rs. 15 and sugarcane Rs. 33. According to figures available with me, the reduction has been anything from Rs. 20 to Rs. 5 in these rates.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** There are tube-wells in Mahsana district in Bombay State. Is it a fact that because the water rates are high, and above the water rates some surcharges are levied for certain types of cultivation and there is also a local cess, the water is not used?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** We have not received any complaint so far as Bombay is concerned.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether the water rates include electric charges or not?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, it includes the whole thing.

**Shri Kastihal:** From the answer I understand that the hon. Minister is aware that in various parts of the country including Rajasthan, because of want of electric power, a large number of tube-wells are not functioning. May I know whether the Minister has drawn the attention of the Rajasthan Government to this and if so, what advice or financial help have the Government of India given to the Government of Rajasthan?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** The Rajasthan area is not very suitable for tube-wells. The main question is of those

States where a large number of tube-wells have been dug. By and large, very few tube-wells have been dug in Rajasthan and so this problem has not arisen there.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Are Government aware that besides the official rate, there is an unofficial rate also which is regularly charged and which cultivators are forced to pay, and therefore, use of water is less?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** I must ask for notice. I do not know if there are two rates.

**Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar:** May I know whether Government will consider the desirability of allotting tube-wells to such of those backward areas in the south which need them very badly for irrigation purposes?

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** As the House knows, we have got a big programme of exploratory tube-wells, and in many areas trials are going on.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Is the Paniwala Maharaj still under the employ of the Government of India? And how many tube-wells have been dug on account of his divine powers?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** He is dead.

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** The Paniwala Maharaj left the Ministry soon after my hon. friend (Shri Thirumala Rao) also left the Ministry.

**Mr. Speaker:** The other gentleman seems to have left the world altogether.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Is the hon. Minister aware that since the sinking of the tube-wells in Jaisalmer was given up by the Agriculture Ministry, further work done there has produced a record supply of water? It has been a great success and the supply of water is almost a record to be maintained by India.

**Dr. F. S. Deshmukh:** I am very glad to hear that. Wherever these possibilities exist, we will certainly help the Rajasthan Government.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** On what material is the observation of the hon. Minister based when he says that Rajasthan has been found unsuitable, in view of the particular fact which I have related, which happened very recently, about two months ago?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** A single swallow does not make a summer. One tube-well may have produced water. But there are several others where there is very little water.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The Minister has stated in reply to a supplementary that his information is that water rates have been reduced from Rs. 20 to Rs 5. May I know whether that related only to some summer season and that was not taken advantage of, because in the summer season it is not the practice in the tube-well area to sow maize etc? Is it because of that that nobody took any advantage of the facilities that were given, and now those facilities have been withdrawn?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** They are already taking steps to reduce water rates.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** That has been done, but it is not advantageous.

#### **Deadlock in Transport Administration in Kerala**

**\*413. Dr. K. B. Menon:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Kerala Legislature the issue of a notification under the Motor Vehicles Act by the Union Government was referred to as the reason for the deadlock in the administration of Transport system in the districts of Palghat, Kozhikode and Cannanore in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to correct the same?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes.

(b) A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No. 11]

#### **Central Tractor Organisation**

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\*414. {  
 Shri Bhakt Darshan:  
 Shri Punnoose:  
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:  
 Shri Raghunath Singh:  
 Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:  
 Shri H. N. Mukerjee:  
 Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
 Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to close down the Central Tractor Organisation;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for closure of this organisation; and

(c) the number of workers who will be affected by this closure?

**The Minister of Cooperation (Dr. P.S. Deshmukh):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सत्य है कि पिछले दिनों सेंट्रल ट्रैक्टर ऑर्गेनाइजेशन से बहुत से कर्मचारियों को नौकरी से अलग कर दिया गया है या उन पर नोटिस सर्वे किये गये हैं ?

डा० पं० शा० देशमुख : जी नहीं, अब तक किसी को भी अलग नहीं किया गया है ।

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** May I know how many tractors were used by this organisation?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** In the beginning we had 270 tractors; they were then reduced to 240 out of which 34 tractors were intended to be scrapped.

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not a fact that some months ago, the Government of India almost decided or had decided to reconstitute this in such a way that