

- (3) Travancore-Cochin Rs. 1,454  
 (4) Madhya Pradesh Rs. Nil  
 (5) Madras Rs. 2,965.

Madhya Pradesh has joined the scheme from 1-4-53 only.

**Shri Madiah Gowda:** May I know whether the production of match-wood is sufficient for the country's consumption?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This I could not say; I have got information only as to what we are doing.

**Shri Badshah Gupta:** May I know, Sir, the areas in U.P. in which match-wood cultivation is being carried on?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is 1452 acres under the scheme, Sir.

#### SURVEY OF GROUND WATER RESOURCES

\*1903. **Shri Buchhikotalah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether and if so, how many American Experts have been or are expected to be invited under the Technical Co-operation Agreement for the survey of India's Ground water resources;

(b) how long they will stay;

(c) the total amount of money to be spent on them; and

(d) whether the work is to be carried on by Indian or foreign contractors?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes. Two.

(b) Nearly three years.

(c) About Rs. 27,000/-.

(d) Tenders will shortly be invited for the purpose and the work will be entrusted to the lowest reliable tenderers who have necessary experience and resources to undertake the work.

**Shri Buchhikotalah:** Up till now what is the progress of the work carried on by foreign experts?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, the whole agreement has been placed on the Table of the House. So far as the digging of the wells is concerned, there will be no expert employed. The experts will be employed only for survey. The Agreement was signed recently and the work has yet to commence.

**Shri Buchhikotalah:** What are the measures adopted by the Government in this field to enthuse national talents?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** So far as tube-wells are concerned, Sir, I do not think there is any need for the enthusing of people.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** What happened to the labours of the Paniwala Maharaj?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That has been dealt with some time back, Sir. I had already given a detailed reply.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether any Indian scientists with geological knowledge are associated with these foreign experts?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, we have tried to utilise available scientists in India. So far as association is concerned I am not sure, but I expect there would be.

#### U. S. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AID

\*1905. **Shri Buchhikotalah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have signed three Operational Agreements with the U.S.A. under U.S. Technical Co-operation Aid in April, 1953 for the construction of 650 additional tube-wells in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh etc.;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the Agreement will be placed on the Table of the House; and

(c) whether any American experts will be invited for the operation of the Agreements?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No. Only one supplementary Agreement to Operational Agreement No. 6 has been signed on 20th April, 1953 for the construction of 650 tube-wells in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab States in addition to the 2,000 tube-wells provided in the main Agreement.

(b) Yes. A copy of the Agreement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 26.]

(c) No.

#### RAILWAY SIDINGS

\*1906. **Shri Deogam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some parties had requested for permission to construct sidings at their own cost for loading of iron ore at Badampahar and Kuldihia on the ex-B.N. Railway during the period 1949-52;