

Rules. The actual recovery will, however, be limited to 10 per cent. of the employees' emoluments.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 70.]

**Shri Veeraswamy:** In view of the fact that the salaries of the railway staff and the wages of the railway labourers have not been increased, but the rent has been increased, may I know whether the Ministry is reconsidering the matter, so as to withdraw the orders?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** The salaries of the workers have been considerably increased.

**Some Hon. Members rose—**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members want only to put questions, and not to hear answers.

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** As regards the increase in rent, we have taken that decision, because we have to bring about a uniformity in the rents charged from all employees.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** Is the hon. Minister aware that the workers of the Golden Rock Railway Colony attended work half an hour late on 26th November 1953, as a protest against the increase in rent?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** It was very incorrect on their part to have come late and delayed attending the workshop.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether any representation was made on behalf of the workers of Golden Rock Railway workshop, and if so, what is the result?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** We received a representation, but as I said just now, we cannot accept their demand.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** On what basis is the increase in rent fixed, and on what basis is the uniformity insisted upon?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. We should not go into arguments over this matter.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know the additional facilities provided for the workers, as a result of the increase in rent for the quarters?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** They will be provided with railway quarters as we have on the railways.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know whether it is correct on the part of Government to increase the rents six-fold?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** Their pay scales have also increased, and in some cases perhaps more than that.

#### TUBE-WELLS

**\*1017. Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to spend rupees twenty-four crores during the next three years on the construction of tube-wells?

(b) What is the number of tube-wells to be constructed?

(c) In which States will these be constructed?

(d) Will the construction work be done through the State Governments by advancing them loans for the purpose?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) Yes.

(b) Production wells 2,650.

Exploratory wells 350.

(c) 2,650 wells will be located in U.P., Punjab, Bihar and PEPSU, while the 350 Exploratory wells will be in the States of Madras, West Bengal, Punjab, U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, Bombay, Kutch, Saurashtra, Orissa, Bihar, Assam, Travancore-Cochin, Rajasthan and PEPSU.

(d) All the production wells will be constructed by State Governments con-

cerned partly through contractors and partly through their departmental agencies. Loans for the construction of these tube-wells will be advanced to the States. The exploratory tube-wells will be constructed by a contractor or contractors under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The cost of successful wells will be debited as loans to the States concerned. The cost of unsuccessful wells will be borne by the Government of India.

**Shri Gidwani:** In reply to the question, the hon. Minister stated that loans will be advanced to the States. Will Government be vigilant and take all possible steps to ensure that tenders for the construction of the tube-wells are not given to bogus and fictitious firms like the National Tube-wells Company of Bombay, which has gone into liquidation and has caused enormous loss to the Bombay Government and the Government of India, and may I know the loss suffered by the Government of India in this connection?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** That is an old story, Sir, which refers to the Bombay Government, who gave a contract to the National Tube-wells Limited. All that we are concerned with is the loan of Rs. 40 lakhs which we had advanced to the Bombay Government, and which we have collected. For the information of the hon. Member, I would like to add that this year, we have collected the instalment with interest. All that we were concerned with was only the loan; we had nothing to do with the other things.

**Shri Raghavachari:** In the list of States read out by the hon. Minister, I did not hear the name of the Andhra State. May I know whether there are any tube-wells to be located there for experiments?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Yes, in Andhra, exploratory tube-wells will be sunk, and their number will be 50.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** May I know the basis on which the funds will be allocated to the various States?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** The possibility of having some tube-wells in an area where no tube-wells have yet been constructed.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know whether Government have any proposals or any projects for sinking wells in areas where tube-wells cannot be constructed?

**Shri Kidwai:** First we will try to explore if we can sink any tube-wells. The other schemes are independent of this and they are always under way.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether this tube-well construction programme is in any way related with the minor irrigation programme of 1950?

**Shri Kidwai:** It has nothing to do with it.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : किन किन राज्यों में कितने ट्यूबवैल बनाने की योजना है और यह जो संख्या निश्चित की गई है वह उन राज्यों की जमीन के अनुसार निश्चित की गई है या उन राज्यों की आबादी के अनुसार ?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** According to the first project, construction of 2,000 tube-wells has been distributed in four States: U.P. 995, Bihar 350, Punjab 355 and PEPSU 300. Regarding the second project, i.e. exploratory wells, they will be distributed in all the States, and of the 650 wells, U.P. will get about 150, Bihar 75, Punjab 160 and PEPSU 135.

**Shri Maniswamy:** May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the cost of construction of tube-wells varies according to the State, and if so, how is the allotment made?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** It varies according to the soil conditions.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know, Sir, what is the average cost of a tube-well under this scheme, say, in U.P., and

how does it compare with the cost of tube-wells constructed elsewhere?

**Shri Kidwai:** Every year the contract differs from the previous year.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** He has not given the cost, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are variations in average cost.

**Pandit S. C. Mishra:** May I know, Sir, whether in view of the fact that the Government of India have undertaken to bear the cost of unsuccessful wells, they have set up some form of machinery to make a differentiation, i.e. to see that the contractors who are given contracts to construct wells do not bungle?

**Shri Kidwai:** There is always some machinery to check the work, whether it is done by the contractor or by the department. But there is always a provision about successful tube-wells and unsuccessful tube-wells. In many cases, no payment is made.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government while launching this programme of tube-well construction will also see that the rates on water from tube-wells are not increased excessively, as has been done recently?

**Shri Kidwai:** If the Parliament Member can persuade his State, we will be willing to control the water rates.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the use of advancing money if they are not being controlled?

**Shri Nanadas:** In view of the fact that the cost of tube-wells constructed by Government is only Rs. 25,000 whereas that constructed by contractors is Rs. 30,000, may I know what are the reasons that compelled the Government to leave the construction of tube-wells to contractors?

**Shri Kidwai:** One obvious reason is that we want to construct these wells as early as possible. Few Governments are equipped with the experience of constructing tube-wells departmentally.

Whatever they can construct departmentally, they are allowed to do.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** May I know, Sir, whether the advice of any scientific expert has been sought in the location of sites for tube-wells and also for keeping the tube-wells in proper service when they are constructed?

**Shri Kidwai:** I am afraid I have not been able to appreciate the question. Every State Government has got trained engineers to look after these things—as to how they are constructed, how they are worked and how they are maintained.

**Shri Radhela Vyas:** May I know, Sir, why the State of Madhya Bharat has been excluded from the programme of construction of tube-wells?

**Shri Kidwai:** Madhya Bharat has not been excluded. I was in the Madhya Bharat headquarters yesterday and I tried to persuade them to try tube-wells in some areas, but they spoke with one voice that that part of the State was not suitable for tube-wells. Then I found that there were some men who said that some tube-wells had been constructed, and I have persuaded them to try tube-wells in some areas.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** In view of the fact that this is going to be of immense benefit to the people, mainly agriculturists, and in view of the necessity of this being completed quickly, will the Government consider the desirability of enlisting the co-operation of the people and getting it done by them?

**Shri Kidwai:** In some places, agriculturists have been persuaded to form co-operative societies and undertake the construction of tube-wells. Both the Central and State Governments have come to finance them.

**Dr. D. Ramachander:** What are the districts that are taken up for the purpose of tube-well construction in the State of Madras?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The hon. Member's district, North Arcot, will also be included.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Lakshmayya:** May I know, Sir, whether experimental tube-wells are going to be constructed in Rayalaseema?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is a little late. Next question.

#### WAGON POSITION

\*1018. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what is the present wagon supply position for export of minerals from the Madras port?

(b) What arrangement is made for genuine exporters who do not resort to registration for the wagons through a number of parties to move their contractual quantities?

(c) How much ore has been moved out at the instance of parties who had registered for wagons on the Guntakal-Bangalore section during the period from the 15th August to the 15th October, 1953?

(d) How many of them have actually exported minerals and what quantity during the above period?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) In the rationing of rail transport to meet the overall requirements, traffic in export ores gets a suitable share. 6,748 wagon-loads of export ores were moved to Madras Port during the six months ending 30th September 1953 as against 4,011 wagon-loads during the previous six months, which represents an increase of 68 per cent.

(b) The Railway as a public carrier, cannot discriminate in the matter of allotment of wagons between the various classes of consignors *viz.*, whether genuine exporters or others. The indents for this traffic, which is entirely for export, are accepted from the consignors who fulfil the prescribed conditions, which are alike for all consignors of this traffic from the areas concerned.

(c) Information for the period from 15th August to 15th October 1953 is not readily available. During the period 1st August to 31st October, 1953, however, a total of 3,207 wagon loads of export ores were moved from the Guntakal and Bangalore Railway Districts, *viz.*, 623 from the former and 2,584 from the latter.

(d) The information is not readily available and its compilation will entail considerable labour and time which may not be commensurate with the purpose it is likely to serve.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Are there complaints from exporters, particularly of manganese ore, that those with larger commitments are allotted less number of wagons?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir. It is a sort of rivalry between all these exporters, and there are complaints made. Each one wants the maximum for himself.

**Shri T. Subrahmanyam:** Who prescribes the terms and conditions on the basis of which wagon allotment is made?

**Shri Alagesan:** The Railway, Sir. But I may tell the hon. Member and the House that the Commerce and Industry Ministry is having this matter under consideration. We may receive their advice shortly and then it will be decided.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Are there any rough and ready methods in regard to allotment of wagons for exporters?

**Shri Alagesan:** If the Commerce and Industry Ministry indicates the quantity in the export licences, then the allotment of wagons may be related to the quantum of export each party has been allowed.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Has this resulted in a scramble for wagons which has adversely affected genuine exporters?

**Shri Alagesan:** It is not so. Sir, this system has already been introduced with respect to exports from