

- (3) Walls, roof and floor should be thoroughly wetted at the site of the blasting.
- (4) There should be an interval of several hours between the time of wetting down a section of the last rock blasted and the time that scalers, sectors and pickers are permitted to enter.
- (5) Drilling should not be done without providing sufficient mechanical ventilation.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether any of these recommendations have been put into practice?

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes, Sir.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: How many of these recommendations have been carried into effect?

Shri V. V. Giri: We have appointed Medical Inspectors to inspect and see that some of these recommendations are put into effect.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Have the Government any figures to show how much of the recommendations have already been given effect to?

Shri V. V. Giri: I will be able to place a report about it on the Table of the House.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

*1437. **Shri Keshavaiengar:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Central or the State Governments have issued instructions that private employers also should notify their vacancies through the Employment Exchanges?

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

(c) Do all the Central Government establishments make their appointments only through the Employment Exchanges?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) No; neither the Central Government nor State Governments have issued such instructions.

(b) At present the Employment Service is a temporary organisation and, for various reasons, it operates in the private sector on a purely voluntary basis. The entire question of the future scope of the activities of the Employment Service is under examination by a High Powered Committee known as the Shiva Rao Committee.

(c) All vacancies in Central Government establishments, other than those filled by the Union Public Service Commission, are compulsorily to be notified to the nearest Employment Exchange and, only if suitable applicants are not available, can such establishments fill vacancies direct. With regard to appointments under State Governments a statement explaining the position has been laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 7.]

EXPERIMENTS ON SALINE SOIL

*1444. **Shri Raghavaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have carried out any experiments in converting saline soil into cultivable land?

(b) If so, what is the cost per acre in breaking the saline soil?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The Government of India have carried out a reconnaissance survey of the little Rann of Kutch during the current year for finding out the suitability of its reclamation, while several State Governments have carried out projects on reclamation of saline and alkaline lands, particularly Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The cost per acre of breaking up of waste lands which would include saline and alkaline lands also, from 1 foot to 16 inches, by heavy tractors, works out to about Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per acre.