

been taken in hand during the current year?

Dr. Katju: I do not find that under any particular head, but that is a matter which is under consideration.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any scheme of priority has been determined, and, if so, what it is?

Dr. Katju: There is no question of priority. There are different heads, and I suppose it will be a march all along the front.

Shri Natawadkar: May I know whether these schemes are worked out in co-operation with the tribes of Assam?

Dr. Katju: Yes, Sir; we want co-operation from the tribes in the first instance.

POST-CARD VENDING MACHINE

*654. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new model of Automatic Post-card vending machine has been received in India for experimental purposes; and

(b) if so, whether it is being tried anywhere?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) It has only just arrived.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there is a condition imposed that if the machine is found to be defective, the country of its origin will take it back?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is still on trial. It was on trial before also. If it is found to be unworkable, of course, it will be returned.

Sardar Hukam Singh: It was on trial before also—that was a Swiss machine; do I understand that this is the same machine, after the removal of defects?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is from the same company.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know how many machines were ordered from the Swiss firm?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is a prototype of the machine, and it has just come. It is being tried. If it is found to be satisfactory, we will order new ones.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Am I to understand that only one machine was ordered?

Shri Raj Bahadur: One machine has come.

Shri Damodara Menon: Is the machine likely to effect any saving to Government?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Keeping in view the amount of labour involved in refilling the machine, collecting coins, etc., I think we cannot predict that there will be at all any saving.

TUBE-WELLS

*655. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tube-wells drilled during the year 1951-52 under 'G.M.F.' Campaign; and

(b) the additional area brought under cultivation and the additional quantity of food grains produced by these wells?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Complete information for the G.M.F. year ending June, 1952 is not yet available. However from July, 1951 to March, 1952, 449 tube-wells were constructed.

(b) The additional area benefited by these tube-wells is estimated to be 67,000 acres. Information regarding additional food grains produced by these wells is not yet available.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was the target of grow-more-food in 1950-51 achieved?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as these tube-wells are concerned, Sir, which this question refers to, we have no definite information yet.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I wanted to know about the year 1950-51. Figures for that year must be available with the Government by now. I want to know whether the target was achieved in that year or it fell short very substantially.