पंडित ए० आर० शास्त्री : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतायेंगे कि जो उत्तरप्रदेश की मांग है कुँवों के लिए, वह कुँवें किन जिलों में अधिकतर बनाये जायेंगे ?

[Pandit A. R. Shastri: Will the fron. Minister state in which districts will the wells asked for by Uttar Pradesh mostly be situated?]

श्री किववाई: वह वही एरिया है जहां से आनरेबिल मैम्बर तशरीफ लाते हैं।

[Shri Kidwai: It is the same area from which the hon. Member hails.]

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Has the Punjab Government asked for any loan from the Government of India for the construction of tube-wells?]

Shri Kidwai: I think there is some scheme, but I cannot give any reply off-hand because this is not concerned with tube-wells.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Is not Bihar a scarcity area?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Is Government aware that the biggest hurdle in the way of the U.P. Government maintaining the programme of well construction is the inability of the Government of India to supply wagons for the proper movement of the raw materials?

Shri Kidwai: Yesterday the Chief Minister of U.P. mentioned it to me, that supplies of cement and other materials is held up, and I am looking into it.

सेठ गोबिन्बदास: उत्तर प्रदेश के सिवाय और किन किन प्रदेशों पर विचार किया जा रहा है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा या कि और भी कुछ प्रदेशों के सम्बन्ध में विचार किया जा रहा है।

[Seth Govind Das: In what other States besides Uttar Pradesh is the construction of tube-wells under consideration? The hon. Minister has

just stated that the case of some other States is also under consideration.]

भी किदबाई : जिन जिन प्रदेशों ने दरस्वास्त की है उन पर विवार किया जा रहा है।

[Shri Kidwai: The cases of those States which have made applications are being considered.]

FIVE-YEAR PILOT SCHEME

- *127. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a Five Year Pilot Scheme has been drawn up by Government for the immobilization of the Rajputana desert; and
- (b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):(a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 3.17 lakes during the first year.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the chief features of this Pilot scheme?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member requires it, I can lay the full literature on the Table. I can distribute it among the Members.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Does this scheme envisage arresting the advance of the Rajputana desert and at what cost?

Shri Kidwai: The present scheme is for 5 years with the possibility of extension for another 5 years.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the cost of carrying out this scheme?

Shri Kidwai: For the first year it will be Rs. 3,17,000 and the total cost is estimated to be Rs. 12 lakhs.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether any consultations in this connection have taken place with the Government of Rajastiran?

Shri Kidwai: Of course.

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY LABOUR UNION

*128. Shri Nambiar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South . Indian Railway Labour Union's recognition has been withdrawn by the General Manager of the S. I. Railway and if so, why;

- (b) whether Government propose to place on the Table of the House a statement showing the respective membership of the recognised Labour Organisations at present on the Southern Railway system and the membership of the South Indian Railway Labour Union at the time of withdrawal of its recognition; and
- (c) whether Government propose to restore recognition to the Labour Union in view of its large membership and representative character?
- The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes. The recognition of the South Indian Railway Labour Union was withdrawn in March 1949, in consequence of the Union having indulged over a period of years in activities subversive to discipline, including sponsoring illegal strikes.
- (b) A statement giving the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 34]
- (c) The matter is under examination on a reference from the General Manager of the Southern Railway.
- Shri Nambiar: The figures placed by the hon. Minister on the Table of the House show that the Workers' Union having a membership of 13,500 and another union having a membership of 1,500 have been recognized. May I ask why a union which has 20,000 workers as members is not recognized? The facts are laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker: He need not repeat all that agrument over again.

Shri L. B. Shastri: I have already made it clear that it was recognized before but the recognition was withdrawn because of its activities and because the Union more than once in one year launched four illegal strikes.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether strike notices have been issued under the law existing or whether it is a strike without a strike notice?

Shri L. B. Shastri: No proper notice was ever given.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that in a recent election to the Canteen Committee of the Golden Rock Railway workshop, all the nominees of the S. I. Railway Labour Union were returned with a thumping majority?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is trying to argue out the matter. He may ask for information on the parti-

- cular point. He will still get an opportunity to ask that question when the Budget comes in for discussion.
- Shri S. V. L. Narasimham: May I know whether the majority of the directors elected to the Co-operative Credit Society run by this Railway are Members of the S. I. Railway Labour Union?
- Mr. Speaker: Again it is an argument to say that the orders passed were not proper. It is no use. He does not ask for any information. On the other hand, he is giving information in support of a particular view that the action of Government was wrong or high-handed. What is the information that he wants now? He can get that information while advancing his argument in the budget discussion. In any case he will have another opportunity.
- Shri S. V. L. Narasimham: I only wanted to ask whether it is true that the majority....
- Mr. Speaker: In that way, a clever lawyer that he is, anything can be put in the form of a question.
- Shri V. P. Nayar: Is it a fact that large sections of workers of the Railway have been continuously demanding the restoration of the recognition?
- Shri L. B. Shastri: Yes. This particular Union has been asking for it and they have said in the reply that the General Manager has made a reference here and the matter is under consideration.
- Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question. When a representation is made and it is under consideration. I do not think it will advance the interests either of justice or of the people concerned to put any questions in Parliament and try to examine and cross-examine the Minister concerned. The best course is to take up the matter either with the Minister privately or to raise a discussion when an opportunity for discussion comes in. More often than not, I am afraid the case is likely to be misjudged by the questions raised. They are just mixed up with political issues and with party issues. If hon. Members keep in mind the limitation that the question hour is intended for eliciting information on the basis of which they can come to conclusions or put further questions or base arguments, then, I think a lot of supplementaries that are put in on questions of this type would be saved.