

स्थानों में से 79 युद्ध-कालीन सेवा वाले उम्मीदवारों के लिए आरक्षित रखे गए थे।

SINKING OF TUBE-WELLS

2230. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the work for sinking 126 tube-wells in the border areas of Rajasthan out of a total number of 268 tube-wells sanctioned by the Central Government has recently been suspended;

(b) if so, the causes thereof and the circumstances for the suspension of work; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take to start the suspended work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The Rajasthan Government has undertaken a Scheme for construction of 250 tube-wells in the State. The E.T.O., under the Union Department of Agriculture, is assisting the State Government as a special case, in the construction of 200 tubewells under this Scheme in the seven scarcity districts of Rajasthan since 1964. Up to the end of 31-1-1968, the work at 275 sites has been completed of which wells at 169 sites have proved successful. Only 18 successful wells have, so far, been taken over by the State Government.

2. The primary function of the E.T.O. is groundwater exploration in different areas having groundwater potentiality for development by tubewells irrigation. The position has, therefore, been reviewed and it has been decided that the Rajasthan Government should now give priority in taking over, completion and utilisation of the tubewells already drilled by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation and that the rigs of the Organisation should be withdrawn for exploratory work elsewhere. This step

was also desirable in view of the fact that the sites now being given by the State to that organisation for further work pertained mainly to boring in existing dug wells, which does not come under the scope of the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation. The Rajasthan Ground-water Board of the State Government is quite competent to handle this type of work. The E.T.O. will however complete the drilling at the sites already taken up.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

2231. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the analysis made by the Planning Commission reported in the Financial Express of the 21st January, 1968 stating that the Agricultural Development Programme will receive a set back in 1968-69 due to paucity of funds;

(b) whether it is a fact that necessary inputs for agriculture like fertilisers and irrigation facilities will also not be available as per original estimates; and

(c) if so, how Government now estimate the total availability of resources and various inputs for agricultural programme for 1968-69 and in view of such resources how Government expect next year's agricultural and food production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The news items in the Financial Express of January 21, 1968 under the caption "Setback to Agricultural Development in 1968-69 Feared: Short Resources" seems to be based largely on the tentative data emerging from discussions on States' Annual Plans for 1968-69. Many of the figures given in the news item have undergone changes following discussions between Planning Commission and the State Chief Ministers. In many cases, certain additional