LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Monday. December 4, 1972/Agranayana 13, 1694 (Saka)

> The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME TO POLISH PARLIA-MENTARY DELEGATION

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

I have great pleasure in welcoming on my own and your behalf our distinguished guests, the Polish Parliamentary 'Delegation led by Hon'ble Mr. Edward Babiuch, M.P. The delegates are seated in the Special Box.

They are on a short visit to our country. Ours is a vast country. We wish they had stayed longer. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay.

We convey our best wishes and greetings through them to their people, assuring them our deep friendship for their Government and the people and wishing them all peace, happiness and prosperity.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Tubewell maintenance and repair Service in Community Development Blocks

*284. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no regular tubewell maintenance and repair service in every Community Development Block as a result of which farmers are facing difficulties in sinking tubewells; and (b) if so, the steps Government have taken to mitigate their sufferings?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) There is no regular maintenance/repair service available in every community development block for tubewells. However, this does not come in the way of sinking of tubewells by the farmers as there are facilities for sinking of tubewells as well as for maintenance and repairs of pumpsets etc. available from other sources at the option of the farmers.

(b) The steps taken by the Government for maintenance and repairs of tubewells include:

- (i) arrangement through dealers supplying the pumpsets on loan to the farmers, for providing after-sale service during the guarantee period and providing the repair facilities after that through their mechanics on some tixed charges;
- (ii) providing repair facilities through the workshops owned by State Governments in some States;
- (iii) providing repair facilities through Agro Industries Corporations in some States;
- (iv) encouraging private workshops for providing repair facilities for pumpers/tubewells stc., so that farmers do not have any difficulty in maintenance of their pumpsets for tubewells.