

RAJYA SABHA

*Friady, the 28th July, 1989/Sravana
1911 (Saka)*

The House met at the eleven of the Clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS To QUESTIONS

" 161. [The Questioner (Shrimati Ratan Kumari and Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik were absent). For answer vide col. infra].

Small and marginal farmers benefited by Million Wells Schemes

, *162. SHRI KAILASH PATI
MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also of freed bonded labourers who have been benefited by the Million Wells Scheme till March 31st, 1989 State-wise, and also the areas so irrigated as a result thereof; and

(b) the number of wells and pump-sets since become unoperational and continue to remain unrepaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANAR-

*j-The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kailash Pati Mishra.

DHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Million Wells Scheme was launched as a sub-scheme of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during the year 1988-89 with the objective of providing open irrigation wells free of cost to the target group consisting of small and marginal farmers amongst Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers, who are below the poverty line. The progress under the scheme is monitored by the Government of India in terms of the number of wells completed in the respective States during the year. The State-wise up-to-date progress of construction of wells under the scheme during 1988-89, on the basis of the information received from the State UTs, is given at the Annexure' (See below)

2. As per the guidelines under the Scheme, in the first phase, only those wells were to be taken up which have a command of at least 1 hectare. As the scheme was launched only during the last financial year, it only during time to get off the ground. It is too early to indicate the areas so irrigated as a result of the wells constructed during¹ 1988-89.

3. The Scheme was confined to open wells only and did not cover borings and tubewells. It is also too early to indicate at this stage, the number of wells and pumpsets since become in-operational and continue to remain unrepaired. Government of India has received no complaints in this regard so far.

3 Oral Answers [RAJYA SABHA] to Questions 4
ANNEXURE

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of wells completed (Nos.)	No. of wells in progress (Nos.)
1		3378	5311
2	Arunachal Pradesh	.....	..
3	Assam....	.....	..
4	Bihar ....	..... 9068	18832
5	Goa ....	..... 2	..
6	Gujarat	..... 426	7543
7	Haryana	.....	..
8	Himachal Pradesh .	.....
9	Jammu & Kashmir		
10	Karnataka	..... 86	
11	Kerala....	.....
12	Madhya Pradesh .	..... 4102	1594
13	Maharashtra . . . .	..... 984	14681
14	Manipur	..... 19	..
15	Mehgalaya	.....	..
16	Mizoram		
17	Nagaland	..... 44	
18	Orissa ....	..... 618	..
19	Punjab ...	.....	..
20	Rajasthan . . . . .	..... 259	7714
21	Sikkim		..
22	Tamil Nadu	..... 443t	
23	Tripura	.....	..
24	Uttar Pradesh	.....	..
25	West Bengal	.....	..
26	A&N Islands	.....	...
27	Chandigarh .*	.....
28	D&N Haveli	.....	19.
29	Delhi .....	.....	..
30	Daman & Diu	.....
31	Lakshadweep	.....	..
32	Pondicherry	.....
		TOTAL: . 23417	556

श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, जो सवाल पूछा गया है मुख्यतः दो सवाल हैं कि मिलियन वेल्स स्कीम से कितने किसानों को लाभ हुआ और कितने बैल हैं जो आपरेशन में नहीं हैं, बाहें बेकार पड़ गये हैं, खराब हो गये हैं। इन दोनों का उत्तर सरकार ने यह कह कर दे दिया कि 1988-89 में यह योजना प्रारंभ होने के कारण उत्तर देना संभव नहीं है, न "ए" का उत्तर देना संभव है और न "बी" का उत्तर देना संभव है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस योजना के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और मुक्त किये गये बंधुआ मजदूरों और किसानों को लाभ देने की बात की गयी थी तो क्या यह बनाते समय जिसका उत्तर में उल्लेख है कि पहले फेज में एक कुआँ एक हेक्टेयर जमीन की सिचाई करेगा तो उस कुएँ की लागत क्या होगी ? एक कुएँ के ऊपर कितना खर्चा होगा और कुएँ की जिन्दगी कम से कम कितनी आंकी गयी है यानी एक साल, दो साल या पाँच साल कुआँ काम करेगा ? मैं इसका उत्तर भंती महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI:
Sir, the target is mentioned in the reply. Here, 1,86,774 open wells was the target; 23,417 families of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labour have completed their open wells and 55,694 families have taken up the digging up of the wells and they are in progress; and 85,694 families will be helped under the completion of these wells. Now Sir, as it is a new scheme, the identification of beneficiaries took a little time and they were not able to complete the project.

Now, coming to the second part of the question about the Scheduled Castes And Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labour having one hectare of land, they will have wells. ■ The unit cost of these wells varies from State to State. The NABARD has fixed the unit cost. For example, in the case of Andhra Pradesh, the unit cost of the well would be Rs. 19,400k. It depends upon the struc-

tural construction of the well. It may last for 10 years, 15 years or 25 years. It will not be for one year or two years.

श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र : मैं सभापति महोदय, मैंने जो प्रश्न पूछा था उसके उत्तर में केवल एक प्रदेश उल्लेख किया गया है अर्थात् एक कुआँ बनाने में आन्ध्र प्रदेश में कितना खर्च हुआ उत्तर का जो चार्ट दिया गया है उसमें मैं देख रहा हूँ कि सबसे ज्यादा कुएँ बिहार के अंतर्गत बने हैं। दुर्भाग्य से इन बने हुए कुआँ का दर्शन करने का अवसर मुझे हुआ है और वे कम से कम आधा दर्जन। लेकिन एक भी कुआँ पानी देता हुआ दिखाई नहीं दिया, एक भी कुआँ सीधा खड़ा नहीं है, सब धंस करके बराबर हो गये हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार राज्य में जहाँ सबसे ज्यादा कुएँ बनने की कम्प्लीशन रिपोर्ट है और निर्माणाधीन भी सबसे ज्यादा हैं, इन पर बिहार में कितनी धनराशि खर्च हुई है और कितने वर्ष तक इन कुआँ के चलने की योजना बनी है ? मेरे क्वेश्चन का दूसरा पार्ट यह है कि सरकार के पास निरक्षण करने की, सर्वेक्षण करने की क्या कोई मशीनरी है ताकि यह पता चल सके कि रास्ट्र की इतनी बड़ी धनराशि खर्च होने के बाद ठीक ढंग से उसका उपयोग हो, इसकी जानकारी प्राप्त हो सके ? इसी क्रम में मेरा तीसरा प्रश्न यह है कि मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि राज्यों और केन्द्र शासित राज्यों की संख्या 32 में से 20 ऐसे हैं जिनमें यह योजना शुरू नहीं की गई है, केरल में शुरू नहीं की गई है, पश्चिम बंगाल में शुरू नहीं की गई है और उत्तर प्रदेश में भी शुरू नहीं की गई है, इसलिये इन बड़े राज्यों में अब तक इस योजना के शुरू न होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI:
Sir, so far as Bihar is concerned, I congratulate the Bihar Government for taking up the implementation of this scheme in right earnest. This is a stage where even other progressive States like West Bengal did not take it up. They claim that it is a progressive State. Bihar has completed 9068 and 18,832 wells are under construction. I think the hon. Member is from Bihar. He must thank the Bihar Government for doing the

job. As the hon. Member said, some States have not taken up the scheme. They thought that it was not possible for them to do it. As the hon. Member stated and also mentioned in the reply, some of the States have not taken up the implementation of the work. We have written to the Chief Ministers. I appeal to the Chief Minister to take up this work in right earnest.

श्री कैलाश जति मिश्र : मैं मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि बिना पानी के सबसे अधिक कृषि बिहार में बने हुये हैं, क्या आप इसकी जाँच के लिये कोई मशीनरी बनाने की कोशिश करेंगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN; Have you got the well inspected to find out whether they are functioning or not?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: There are committees at the district level. Under the 20-Point Programme, there are monitoring committees at the district and also at the State level. They are monitoring the wells. Supervision is also done at the State level.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Have you got information as to how many wells are functioning?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I have not received any information about it. If the hon. Member has got any information, he may pass it on to me and I will get it examined.

श्री विरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, माननीय मंत्री जी के उत्तर से संबंधित मेरा प्रश्न है। फ्रीड बोर्डर लेबरर्स और स्माल एंड मीडियम फार्मर्स विलेजिंग टू शेडयूल्ड कास्ट्स एंड शेडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स के पास अगर एक हेक्टेयर से कम जमीन है तो जैसा मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है उनके लिये यह कृषि नहीं बनेगा। एक हेक्टेयर से कम आधा हेक्टेयर जमीन अगर नान शेडयूल्ड कास्ट बोर्डर लेबर की है तो उनको इस तरह की कोई सहायता सरकार की तरफ से नहीं है। क्या यह भी माननीय मंत्री जी

बतायेंगे कि उन्होंने हरियाणा, पंजाब, उत्तर प्रदेश और बंगाल आदि को इस प्रकार के कृषि नम्बर आफ वेल्स प्रस्ताव किये हैं या नहीं किये हैं अगर नहीं किये हैं तो क्यों और अगर किये हैं तो उनका क्या क्या नम्बर है ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, there is no rule prohibiting or there are no guidelines prohibiting any State Government from taking up any family which is having less than one hectare.

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA; But you have said something else in your answer. Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has given this in his answer in paragraph 2. He has said, "_____ unless those wells were to be taken up which have a command of at least one hectare."

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Yes. But you have conveniently left out one sentence. As per the guidelines for the scheme, in the first phase, only those wells are to be taken up which have a command of at least one hectare and priority will be given to those families of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers who are having land which exceeds one hectare also for irrigation purposes and the families which are having less than that, if they get the funds, they can go in for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your idea is that they can have it the second stage?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: For example, in a particular district, let us assume that more people are not having land;

MR. CHAIRMAN: You mean the State can relax the rules? *

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Yes.

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Sir, the Minister's reply goes against what he has said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. He has said what?

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: He has said what?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said that in special cases the State can relax. That is all what you want. Yes, Mr. Panwar.

श्री भंडार लाल पंवार : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि मिलियन वेल्स स्कीम के अन्तर्गत क्या राज्य-वार इन कुओं का निर्धारण किया गया था ? अगर किया गया था तो राज्य-वार कितना किया गया ? राजस्थान के संबंध में . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you allow this to the different States? Can you mention it State-wise?

श्री भंडार लाल पंवार : दूसरी बात ।

श्री सभापति : एक ही पूछ लीजिये । जल्दी जल्दी पूछ लीजिये ।

श्री भंडार लाल पंवार : राजस्थान सरकार ने गुजरात के समान बराबर इस स्कीम में भाग लिया । वहाँ पर 259 खोदे गये और 7714 चल रहे हैं । इस संबंध में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानकारी चाहूँगा कि वेस्टर्न पार्ट जो राजस्थान का है वहाँ कितने खूदे और पूर्वी भाग में कितने खूदे । क्योंकि वेस्टर्न पार्ट में . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't expect a Central Minister to know what is there in the east or west of Rajasthan. He can give only State-wise; that is all.

श्री भंडार लाल पंवार : ओम्ली वाइ-फ़रकेशन । मैं यह भी जानना चाहूँगा कि क्या इन 259 पर पंप सेट आपकी तरफ से दिये गये हैं या नहीं ?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: He is talking about Rajasthan. These wells are free of cost and it is a grant.

All the States have been given the targets. Rajasthan has been given the target. Twenty thousand wells are to be completed in the year 1988-89 by Rajasthan; and a sum of Rs. 36 crores has been provided. They have completed 259 wells and 7,714 wells are under construction. So far as the eastern and western parts of Rajasthan are concerned, I do not have any information.

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir. I have asked the Minister what the targets are which have been fixed for the States of UP, Har- yana, Punjab and West Bengal. But the Minister has not given the reply.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: For West Bengal, the target was 15,000 wells and a sum of Rs. 19.80 lakha has been provided. But there is no information whether they have constructed a single open well,

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Did you ask for any information from the State? Did you ask them for sending a report?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sorry to submit, Madam, that in spite of repeated requests we have not been furnished any information at all. That is the interest taken by your West Bengal Government and for Scheduled Castes and 'Scheduled Tribes,

I have got information about other States and if hon. Members require...-

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Some confusion is there in the statement in respect of certain States and certain Union Territories because no information has been given about them. It is a blank. But does it indicate that the Centre has not got any information? Or does it indicate that no progress has been made or no well has been constructed?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as the West Bengal Govern.

ment is concerned, Rs. 19.80 crores have been provided to the West Bengal Government to construct West Bengal Government to construct 15000 wells. We have written to them but so far no information has been given whether they have constructed or they have not constructed. It shows that they are not interested in the scheme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now talk about Rajasthan, please. Why do you go to West Bengal?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I have given figures about Rajasthan also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is very simple. (*Interruptions*) You cannot interrupt his supplementary. He wanted to know whether for the wells which have been dug some pumpsets have been provided.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as this programme is concerned, there is no provision for providing pump-sets. But they can get pump-sets under IRDP.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that regarding pump-sets the Government of India have no information; that means that all pump-sets are working. When we go to blocks we get complaints from the agriculturists that some of the pump-sets are not functioning and there is no provision for workshops. So they are lying inoperative. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government of India have given any instructions to the States to have monitoring cells to see whether these pumpsets are functioning or not and whether there is any provision for workshops for repairing these pumpsets.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, the repairing of pumpsets and all these things are State functions. If the hon Member finds that there is any deficiency in the functioning she

may kindly bring to it my notice and I will write to the State Government for effective implementation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Land reforms in the country

*163. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the seminar on Land (reforms organised recently by the Planning Commission projected the existence of absentee landlordism in the country; and

(b) if so, what stringent measures Government propose to take to fully implement land reforms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Seminar on Land Reforms organised recently by the Planning Commission has noted to existence of absentee landlordism in some parts of the country where despite the formal ban on tenancy cultivation by leasing lands under concealed and informal tenancy arrangements continues to flourish.

(b) Land being a State subject under the Constitution, responsibility for enactment of land reform laws and their effective implementation rests with the State Governments.

However, the Progress of Implementation of land reform measures is reviewed by the Union Government at various levels from time to time and particularly in Revenue Ministers Conferences. The distribution of Surplus Ceiling Land is monitored under Twenty Point Program-