

about Rs. 12.58 lakhs. In this year alone we are going to spend about Rs. 11 crores including the institution of financing. This includes a programme of tubewell sinking. If the programme implementation goes on all right at the State level we expect about 5,000 to 6,000 private tubewells to be undertaken.

SHRI P. C. MITRA : May I know whether the allotment made in 1967-68 to the Bihar Government was fully drawn and utilised by them ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Yes, Madam, the consciousness among the farmers in regard to minor irrigation has increased so fast now that last year there was a provision of Rs. 1234 lakhs while Rs. 11.35 crores was actually spent.

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : पहला सवाल जो इस सम्बन्ध में मझे पूछना है वह यह है कि बिहार के अन्दर में सिंचाई की जो सुविधायें हैं वह बहुत ही कम है खास कर के जो बृहत सिंचाई योजना है उस के अंदर में जो सिंचाई का क्षेत्र है वह बहुत कम है। ऐसी हालत में सरकार क्या सोचती है कि बिहार के अंदर में इस साल अधिक से अधिक रुपया लघु सिंचाई के लिये मुहैया किया जाय।

दूसरा सवाल इस संबंध में ही है कि क्या सरकार को यह मालूम है कि लघु सिंचाई योजना में सरकार की ओर से जो सहायता दी जाती थी वह पहले 50 परसेंट मिलती थी, वह बिहार में 25 परसेंट कर दी गयी है, जसे आहरे की मरम्मत के लिये या दूसरी चीजों के लिये, उसे 25 परसेंट कर दिया गया है जिस से किसानों को...

उपसभापति : सवाल पूछिये।

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : जिस से किसानों को बहुत दिक्कत होती है। ऐसी हालत में क्या सरकार सबसिडी को पुनः 50 परसेंट करने के लिये तैयार है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Madam, we are rendering substantial assistance to all State Governments including Bihar. I have already mentioned that we give 60 per cent by way of

loan and 15 per cent by way of subsidy. The State Governments have to provide for only 25 per cent in their Budgets. So 75 per cent of the resources are provided by the Centre and it is for the State Government to decide what quantum of assistance should be given.

SHRI A. P. JAIN : Sometime ago, the utilisation of tubewells in Bihar was very low. What is the percentage of utilisation of tubewells in Bihar now and what is the Government doing to increase the percentage of utilisation ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Madam, I will require notice for this.

*273. [The questioner (Shri Babu-bhai M. Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide. Cols. 1810-11 infra.]

*274. The questioners (Shri Arjun Arora and Shri Gulam Nabi Untoo) were absent. For answer, vide col. 1811 infra.]

NATIONAL LABOUR COMMISSION

*275. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) what further progress has been made in the work of the National Commission on Labour; and

(b) by when the Commission is expected to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAI-SUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) It is difficult to answer about further progress without reference to any point of time but on the whole up till now the progress is according to the schedule.

(b) In early 1969.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : In view of the fact that the Commission has not completed taking evidence from the State units of the Central organisations and it has not yet started taking evidence from the Central organisations, will it be possible for the Commission to submit its report early in 1969 as stated by the Minister ?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : We have enquired from the Commission about this. They have kept in their schedule a discussion with Central organisations also. We hope that with The programme which they have drawn up, it will be possible for them to stick to this date of early 1969.

SHRI D. THENGARI : May I know whether the National Labour Commission has arrived at any tentative decision on the point of recognition of trade unions and whether the Government of India on its part has submitted any memorandum to the Commission on the point of recognition of trade unions and if so, the broad outlines of the same ?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : They have appointed a sub-committee to go into this question, but they have not given any interim report on this question of recognition.

SHRI D. THENGARI : Have the Government submitted any memorandum on this point?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : The Commission is to discuss with the Labour Ministry this question in their scheduled programme sometime in October.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

CONFERENCE TO REOPEN INDUSTRIAL UNITS

*276. SHRI C. ACHUTHA MENON : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals which were put forward by representatives of the trade union organisations for reopening of closed down industrial units and allaying labour unrest at the Conference held on the 20th May, 1968 by the Minister for Labour in Calcutta; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to relieve unemployment, reopening of closed factories and to stop industrial unrest in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) Their proposals were (i) that a survey should be made to find out whether there was actually any recession in industry and if so, to what extent it affected industrial establishments in West Bengal, (ii) that there should be a moratorium or retrenchment by employers till the survey was completed and (iii) that all closed factories should be reopened.

(b) A Committee has been formed by the Government of West Bengal to make a survey of all closed units so as to find out the causes of the closure in each case, such as financial stringency, recession or industrial dispute, so that suitable measures to reopen the units could be taken. The Committee started functioning from 1-6-68 and has been asked to submit its report within two months. Attempts are being made, through conciliation, by the State Government to reopen closed factories.

The State Government is also taking steps to set up a machinery for assessment of proposals for mass retrenchment and mass lay-off in industries. Further they have advised employers and their associations to follow the recommendations of the 24th Session of the Standing Labour Committee in the matter of giving one month's notice in case of mass lay-off and three months' notice in case of mass retrenchment.

SHRI C. ACHUTHA MENON : Madam, I would like to know whether there was any suggestion in that conference that the Government should take over certain industrial undertakings which have been closed for the last several months and whether there was any suggestion in that conference for helping those small industrialists who have been put to financial difficulties, through Governmental agencies.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : So far as the first question is concerned, I do not remember to have received any such suggestion when I met the workers. So far as the second is concerned, there was such a suggestion and I said "Let us first have a survey and find out whether a particular industry is closed because of financial difficulties or because of recession or because of some industrial dispute." When they are classified in this way, if the closure is because of industrial dispute it can be solved; if it is because of financial difficulties, that can be looked into. This report will be ready within a few days or a fortnight. After it is received, this question can be looked into.

SHRI D. THENGARI : What is the total number of persons thrown out of employment because of closures during this recession period and how many of them have been given alternative employment ?