

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, in view of the interest of Members in this question, I ask why there should not be a Short Duration Discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The C. I. A. discussion is coming, and you can utilise that opportunity for ventilating your views.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

UNDERGROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT

*158. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study of the underground water development possibilities in the country have been made by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the results of such a study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Exploratory Tubewells Organisation under the Union Department of Agriculture has been carrying out groundwater exploration in different parts of the country with a view to delineating areas with groundwater potential for development by tubewell irrigation. It has carried out the groundwater exploration so far in 15 States. The exploration has proved an area of about 24,000 sq. miles as worthy of future groundwater development for irrigation purposes creating a potential for 12,000 irrigational tubewells of minimum one cusec capacity in the various regions of the country. Based on this potential the total area likely to be benefited in future by the tubewell irrigation will

be about 2.5 million acres gross (round) at the average rate of 200 acres (gross) per well.

WAGE BOARDS FOR WORKING AND NON-WORKING JOURNALISTS

*157. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 411 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th August 1967 and state :

(a) whether Government have since examined the reports of Wage Boards for working and non-working journalists and

(b) if so, what are the decisions taken; thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAISUKH-LAL HATHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government's decisions on the Report of the Wage Board for Working Journalists were announced in an order issued on the 27th October, 1967. Copies of the order along with the Report have been placed in the Parliament Library.

Copies of the Resolution announcing Government decisions on the final recommendations of the Central Wage Board for Non-Journalists were placed on the table of the Sabha on the 20th November, 1967. Copies of the report have been placed in the Parliament Library also.

केरल के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश में चावल की उगाही

* 158. श्री राजनारायण : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1965-66 में केरल राज्य की विषम खाद्य स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए उस राज्य को चावल सप्लाई करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी जिलों में धान की उगाही की गई थी; और