

CHAIRMAN: It is a hypothetical question.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I ask, Sir, what are the freight charges from the countries from which we have imported and how much have we paid to foreign ships?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: The freight charges vary from State to State. I think, at present the freight charges from U.S.A. is '62 shillings or something like that. We have paid the amount of 37 crores in 1952 and about 40 crores in 1951 and must less an amount in the previous years.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: I wanted the rate from U.S.A. to here or from Australia to here per ton.

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: The last year's rate from U.S.A. and other places was, I think, 82 shillings. I think, it was 40 shillings from Siam and a little higher from Burma.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know, Sir, how much was paid to the foreign shipping companies as freight?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: I hope the hon. Member will realise that for all these details we require a separate question.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Is it a fact, Sir, that the exporting countries insist on these food grains being carried on their own ships and not on our ships?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: I think, generally we have to charter the ships.

TUBE-WELLS

*82. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to sink 2,000 new tube-wells;

(b) what will be the additional acreage that will be brought under irrigation when all these tube-wells start working;

(c) what would be the cost of construction of a tube-well;

(d) how many of these tube-wells are to be sunk in Mysore, Madras, Hyderabad and Travancore-Cochin;

(e) what will be the standard depth of a tube-well; and

(f) what will be the average maintenance cost per month per tube-well?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes. We have a programme for construction of 2,000 tube-wells as under:—

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|--------|-----|-----|
| U.P. | ... | 995 |
| Bihar | ... | 350 |
| Punjab | ... | 355 |
| PEPSU | ... | 300 |

(b) About 8- lakh acres.

(c) About Rs. 29,000 excluding the cost of the supply of electric energy and civil works like pump house and channels.

(d) None.

(e) Average depth of a tube-well would be 300 ft.

(f) the average maintenance cost per month per tube-well will be Rs. 250 excluding the cost of electricity which varies with the number of hours the tube-well is run.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that in those places, the names of which have been mentioned by the hon. Minister, already tube-wells to the extent of 2,500 exist?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is a fact, but they want still more in addition to 2,000 we have provided.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that out of these we have sunk only about 500?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: So far as these 2,000 are concerned, we have just

completed the agreement. None of them has been started.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know the reasons that are coming in the way of sinking tube-wells in the Southern India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, tube-well sinking is not a mere matter of choice as it goes by the strata. We have to make a geological survey and carry on investigation.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Does the Government know that famines mostly come in South India—Mysore, Madras and other parts?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Tube-well is not a ready-made solution to be applied to famines.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Tube-wells will emit nearly 30 to 40 thousand gallons of water. Is the Government aware of it?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes, Sir. The hon. Member's information is correct. We get about 30 to 40 thousand gallons.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Each tube-well irrigates about four hundred acres of land. Is it not so?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes, it is so.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What is the reason of so many wells being sunk only in one area?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: Because that area is a very vast area and it can easily be sunk. Now we have asked the State Governments to explore the possibility of sinking these tube-wells in different areas and for the first time for our next year's programme we are trying to give a lot of tube-wells for experimental purposes. It has been found that the Deccan strata does not suit tube-well sinking but still, whatever is possible will be done and therefore, already a number of tube-wells have been allotted to Andhra.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has the Deccan area been surveyed?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: That I do not know. But a report was always there that tube-wells cannot be sunk.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Have the Government at least surveyed the whole of India so as to find out which particular area is suitable for sinking tube-wells?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: It is said that only Northern India is suitable for that and some parts of Rajasthan.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Is it a fact, Sir, that the geological survey and subsoil survey was held in Madras, especially in the district of South Arcot where the conditions are suitable for the sinking of tube-wells? And if that is so, will the Government consider the possibility of sinking tube-wells there?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: I do not claim to be an expert as the hon. questioner is, but when last time I was in Madras, I discussed with the Officers and Ministers of the Madras Government to explore the possibility of sinking these tube-wells in Rayala-seema which is a very deficit area, and they said that it was not possible, but still, as I have said, we are going to explore the possibility of having tube-wells there.

DR. P. C. MITRA: How many tube-wells are being sunk in Bihar?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I think the reply has already been given. 350.

DR. P. C. MITRA: How many in Chhota Nagpur?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have, not got the figures.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: In Gujarat?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: There is a scheme for that.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, what is that scheme?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: That scheme is outside this.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Are these tube-wells being sunk by the Government and will they be maintained by the Government of India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: No, Sir. These tube-wells are not entirely a gift to the State Governments. They have to pay for them, it is a loan and they have got to pay for them.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Have the Government taken measures to see that the tube-wells that were already sunk in the previous years are being maintained, because the problem is more of the maintenance of the tube-wells that were sunk than sinking of fresh tube-wells?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: We have not received any complaints so far as maintenance is concerned.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is the Government aware that the tube-wells in certain parts of Northern India, at least in Bengal, that were sunk previously have gone out of commission?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: We have no information.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What were the number of tube-wells sunk under the First Tube-Well Scheme in Bihar, UP. and the Punjab?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: That was the reply.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: 538.

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: The State Governments of UP. and Bihar had been sinking tube-wells in the previous years out of their own funds. Therefore we have not shown them.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: The Minister has replied that 995 tube-wells were sunk under the First Tube-Well

Scheme. May I know how many tube-wells are working at the moment?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: 42 tube-wells are working in U.P.. Bihar and the Punjab.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Was the attention of the Government drawn to a news item in the "Statesman" during the course of the last month that only 93 tube-wells were working out of the 500 that were sunk?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: 538 tube-wells had been sunk but connections had not been given to all of them.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: How many of the tube-wells were working?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: It was all under the previous scheme.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Are rotary machines being used to bore these tube-wells?

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In *The Commerce of Bombay* dated the 7th Feb. 1953 there is an item of news as follows:

"In UP., Bihar and Punjab for instance, we are told that over 500 tube-wells out of a total of 965 in the first tube-well scheme have been sunk. But surprisingly enough, only 33 of these have been energised, the rest remaining unused and probably deteriorating due to siltine. The reason for this deplorable state of affairs is that the other step for the utilisation of these wells, such as acquiring of lands for transmission lines and power houses are being taken slowly and in a leisurely fashion. What a waste of resources, time and man-power!"

Is this true?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: It is a fact that the tube-wells were delivered to the UP. Government, but in some places electricity was not readily available, but now connection[^] are being made available and all the tube-

wells are expected to be working in the U.P. In places where there is no electricity, they are using Diesel oil engines so that they may be working.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next question.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: My question has not been answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There was no answer to it.

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: We have got rotaries.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Are they being used and where?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: They are being used by the States who possess them.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: What is the number?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: The question was about tube-wells. Now it has come to rotaries.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: The boring of tube-wells arises out of the question.

PROCUREMENT AND SALE OF RICE

*83. SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate at which rice is procured from Madhya Pradesh and Orissa for the Central Rice Pool; and

(b) the rate at which it is sold at the Government controlled shops in West Bengal and Madras?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI): (a) and (b). Two statements showing (i) the procurement price and f.o.r. price of rice in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa and (ii) the issue prices of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa rice in Madras and Orissa rice in West Bengal during 1952 and January 1953 are laid on the Table of the House. West Bengal did not get any rice from

Madhya Pradesh. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 33.]

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I invite the attention of the Minister to the statement attached to the answer? There are two sorts of rice which seem to have been imported into Madras, rice first sort and rice second sort. May I know what kinds of rice are of the first sort and what kinds of rice are of the second sort?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: The first sort is of better quality. The second sort is of inferior quality.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: There may be some local differentiation of which we are not aware.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Sir, we find that Orissa coarse rice is procured by Government at Rs. 11-6-6 per maund and the f.o.r. price ex-station of despatch is Rs. 13-10-6; but it is being sold in the ration shops in West Bengal at the rate of Rs. 17-8-0 per maund. May I know how the difference is justified?

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: I think the hon. Member should know that West Bengal is procuring its own rice which costs a little higher. They have also some imported rice from Burma and Siam, which cost last year Rs. 28 and a few annas to Rs. 32 and a few annas per maund. The price which is mentioned here is only the consolidated price.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: In Madras, for the superior variety of rice the price is Rs. 22-8-0 per maund, but the procurement price in M.P. of fine rice is only Rs. 20-3-0 and f.o.r. station of despatch Rs. 22-4-6.

SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: I hope my hon. friend realises that, when they purchase rice in Orissa or M.P., they have got to take it to their own place, and the cost of transport has got to be added. They also have imported rice, and all these prices are pooled. Anyway, they are making no profit.