

need for increase in the Government patronage for the labour contract societies in Manipur; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this behalf ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) 121 in the Union Territory of Manipur.

(b) All are functioning.

(c) Works worth Rs. 38,07,000 were undertaken during the three years ending 1969-70.

(d) The various recommendations made by the National Advisory Board for Labour Contract and Construction Cooperatives with regard to patronage of these societies at their different meetings were forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories including the Manipur Government for implementation. Government of Manipur have generally accepted these recommendations.

(e) Lt. Governor, Manipur, can award building and road works to registered Labour Cooperative Societies without call of tenders upto an estimated cost of Rs. one lakh. In addition, works can be awarded to the registered Labour Cooperative Societies at current market rates, provided the same are within the district schedule of rates without call of tenders by the Executive Engineer upto Rs. 10,000, by the Superintending Engineer upto Rs. 15,000/- and by the Chief Engineer upto Rs. 20,000. Works upto a limit of Rs. 35,000/- can also be assigned by P. W. D. to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Labour contract Cooperative Societies, if their tenders are within 7 % of the lowest tender.

Changes in Administration of The Cooperative Sector in Manipur

3615. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what structural changes have been introduced in the administration of Cooperative Sector in Manipur after the Division of Manipur into five Districts; and

(b) whether creation of new posts of A. R. C. S.'s and Inspectors of Cooperative Societies has been proposed on account of the increase in the number of districts ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) and (b). Information called for from the Government of Manipur is awaited and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course,

Development and preservation of fruits in Manipur

3616. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the preservation and tinning of fruits under the agricultural Department of Manipur so far;

(b) the amount invested in the form of permanent equipments;

(c) the number of hands employed for this purpose;

(d) whether the products are sold outside Manipur also; and

(e) if so, the quantity thereof annually?