

cating the position of the co-operatives in the co-operative years 1966-67 and 1967-68, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1690/69.]

**Fixation of Minimum Wages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

3691. SHRI K. R. GANESH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has since fixed the Minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act ;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Minimum Wages Advisory Committee have been accepted ;

(c) whether the Industrial Tribunal in the matter of disputes between employees and the Wimco Factory and Andaman Timber Industries, Port Blair has suggested certain principles for fixation of minimum wages in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands ;

(d) if so, the wages so fixed by the Industrial Tribunal at that point of time ; and

(e) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has adhered to the principles laid down by the Tribunal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. Minimum Wages are reported to have been notified on the 29-5-1969 in respect of employment in the construction or maintenance of roads, in building operations in stone breaking and stone crushing.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee were accepted with the modification that as against a minimum daily rate of Rs. 5.15 suggested by it for unskilled labourers the Administration has fixed a daily rate of Rs. 4.92, keeping in view the wage rates fixed in other parts of the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

**Soyabean Demanded by States**

3692. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FOOD

AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of high yielding Soya-bean Seed demanded by States (State-wise) during 1969-70 from the National Seeds Corporation ;

(b) the quantity of the said seed which the Corporation promised to supply ;

(c) the quantity of seed actually supplied by the Corporation to States (State-wise) ; and

(d) the reasons for shortfall, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) to (d). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1691/69.]

**Central Agro-Industrial Corporation**

3693. SHRI N. R. LASKAR :  
SHRI CHENGALRAYA  
NAIDU :  
SHRI R. BARUA :  
SHRI DEORAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal for setting up a Central Agro-Industrial Corporation to help in designing agricultural machinery ;

(b) if so, when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ; and

(c) the main features of this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The question of setting up a Central Agro-Industries Corporation, which *inter alia*, will look after the Development of Agricultural Machinery, is receiving attention of the Government of India.

(b) The decision is expected to be taken in due course.

(c) The functions of the proposed Corporation are also under consideration.