

(ii) that revision of minimum wages should be undertaken a little more frequently.

(iii) that enforcement machinery in the case of agriculture, should be strengthened and in addition, the assistance of Revenue and Panchayat Officials should be secured.

#### PROCUREMENT PRICE OF WHEAT AND RICE

\*342. SHRI K. N. PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have suggested higher procurement price for wheat and rice for the coming season; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No such suggestion has been received for the coming season.

(b) Does not arise.

#### PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

\*343. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of FOOD & AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 20 per cent of funds available for agriculture are spent for improving the yield of foodgrains; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to revise planning at different stages to secure more yield of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). No precise data is available regarding the percentage of funds spent for improving the yield of foodgrains out of

the amounts meant for agricultural development. Foodgrains account of about three fourths of the gross cultivated area and two thirds of the total value of output of principal crops. It is, therefore, expected that the bulk of the funds allocated for agriculture is utilised for improving the yield of foodgrains. Moreover, under the new strategy for Agricultural Development, special emphasis is being laid on increasing the production of foodgrains as part of the high yielding varieties programme.

#### SUBSIDY ON PESTICIDES

\*344. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :  
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :  
SHRI K. RAMANI :

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

(a) whether Government propose to subsidise pesticides;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) its effect on their prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration for a general subsidy on pesticides.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### ELECTRONIC COMPUTERS

\*345. SHRI DEIVEEKAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the introduction of Electronic Computers will lead to increased industrial unrest among workers and labourers;

(b) if so, whether this will lead to increased problem of unemployment; and

(c) the steps which are being taken to see that their installation does not effect unemployment problem?