

Third Five Year Plan. Details have been asked for and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as they are received from the State Governments.

Cooperative Labour Unions

1420. Shri S. Swamy: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) how many cooperative labour unions or societies are working in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any major contracts have been given to those cooperative labour organisations;

(c) if so, what works they are;

(d) what is the amount thus agreed upon for each work respectively; and

(e) whether any financial loan, help grants have been given to those labour cooperative organisations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Cooperation (Shri S. D. Misra): (a) to (e). Information is being collected from the State Governments and Union Territories. A statement will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as the information is received.

Fertilizer Production

1421. Shri P. E. Chakravarti: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the supply position of Fertilisers produced in the country copes with the increased demands of the agriculturists;

(b) the quantity of fertilisers, with costs involved which Government propose to import this year;

(c) whether it is economical to invest money in setting up factories for

its production rather than continuing to import fertilisers; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to do away with all imports by a fixed date?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a)

<i>Plant Nutrient</i>	<i>Extent to which indigenous supply copes with the demand for 1962-63</i>	
Nitrogen	34%	
P ₂ O ₅	100%	
K ₂ O	Negligible	

<i>Nitrogen</i>	<i>Quantity tonnes</i>	<i>Value Rs. Crores</i>
Nitrogen	4,17,000	} 25.90
P ₂ O ₅	*10,000	
K ₂ O	**54,000	

*In the form of complex fertilisers.

**The imports are arranged by the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.

(c) and (d). The costs of imported fertilisers are generally lower than those of the indigenous products. Import of fertilisers, however, involves heavy payments in foreign exchange. In order to prevent this drain it has been decided to set up additional factories to meet the demands for nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers envisaged in the Third Plan. The production capacity for P₂O₅ has risen sufficiently to meet the existing demand. However, the factories for the production of Nitrogenous fertilisers involve huge capital outlay and take time to establish. Imports of nitrogenous fertilisers will, therefore, be necessary during the intervening period for meeting the