

Gratuity for Retrenched Colliery Workers state :

2459. **SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the colliery workers are paid gratuity after retrenchment ; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILRAR) : (a) and (b). According to available information, some employers in coal mines pay gratuity to their workers. A proposal to introduce an industry-wise gratuity Scheme for coal miners is under consideration.

Consumption of Chemical Fertiliser

2460. **SHRI S. R. DAMANI :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to

(a) progress made in the consumption of chemical fertilisers in the last three years ;

(b) how much of it is from indigenous production and how much imported and at what cost ;

(c) the areas in which their use has not yet become popular and the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the steps taken to increase their consumption in such areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The consumption of chemical fertilisers in the country in the last three years along with details of domestic production, imports and their cost are shown in the statement below :

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Consumption			Domestic Production		Imports		Value of Imports	
	N	P	K	N	P	N	P	K	Rs. crores
1968-69	12.08	3.82	1.70	5.45	2.10	8.41	1.37	2.13	162.92
1969-70	13.98	4.35	1.76	7.16	2.22	6.67	0.94	1.20	116.77
1970-71	14.26	4.61	2.26	8.30	2.30	4.77	0.32	1.20	76.77

(c) The use of fertilisers has not yet become popular in certain areas and due to various reasons as explained below :—

(i) The use of fertilisers is not as popular and rate of growth not as high in the predominantly rice-growing States as it is in the

predominantly wheat-growing States. Thus, in the States of Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, there has been an increase in consumption of 356%, 530%, 345%, and 238% respectively in 1970-71 over the consumption levels