

Ltd., National Coal Development Corporation Ltd., Singueri Companies Ltd., were granted exemption in respect of their gratuity trusts; and

(c) whether any other coal mining company was granted such an exemption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Under rule 2 of Part B of the Fourth Schedule to the Income-tax Act, 1961 the following gratuity trusts were given approval by Commissioner of Income-tax, West Bengal during 1971 to 1974:

1. R. B. S Rubber Mill Gratuity Fund.
2. Tractors India Limited Staff Gratuity Fund
3. Birla Gwalior (P) Ltd. Employees Gratuity Trust.
4. Champdany Jute Co Ltd. Gratuity Fund.
5. Khaitan and Co Employees Gratuity Fund.
6. Gramophone Co. of India Ltd. Employees Gratuity Insurance Scheme Trust Fund
7. Sen's Chemical Works Pvt. Ltd. Employees Gratuity Fund.
8. Scientific Design and Development Pvt. Ltd., Employees Gratuity Fund.
9. British Metal Corporation (P) Ltd. Employees Gratuity Fund.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Implementation of Agreement with USSR for Import of Fertilizers

5906. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of agreement signed in February, 1975

with USSR for import of fertilizers has started; and

(b) if so, how much fertilizers have been imported so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 39860 tonnes of fertilizers have already been shipped by the U.S.S.R. authorities upto 31st March, 1975.

Recommendations made at the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific

5906. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether any recommendations made at the session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific held in New Delhi during the month of March, 1975 have been received by Government and if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): The Commission, at its New Delhi Session, reviewed the progress made by the region in the different fields of economic and social activity, approved the terms of reference of its main Committees, rationalised the structure of its subsidiary bodies and endorsed an integrated Programme of Work and Priorities for the period 1975—77. It also adopted resolutions reflecting the consensus among the member countries in regard to the regional contribution to the establishment of a New International Economic Order, legislative arrangements within the Commission on matters relating to Shipping and Ports, establishment of regional centres for transfer of technology and for Agricultural machinery, regional plan of action for enhancement of the role of women in development, Coordination of the activities of the regional training institutions and change in the name of the Asian Institute of Economic Development and Planning.

The Indian delegation fully participated in the Session and was by and large satisfied with the outcome of the deliberations. The follow-up action would be initiated by the Secretariat of the Commission.

Import of Fertilizers

5907. SHRI VEKARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers imported during the year 1974-75; and

(b) the names of the countries from whom imported, country-wise and quantity-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b). A statement is enclosed

Statement

Statement showing country-wise and quantity-wise imports of fertilizers during 1974-75.

| S.No. | Country | Quantity (Metric Tonnes) |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) |
| 1. | Austria | 50,000 |
| 2. | Belgium | 21,000 |
| 3. | Bulgaria | 7,24 |
| 4. | Denmark | 10,000 |
| 5. | D.P.R.K. | 10,500 |
| 6. | France | 3,24,000 |
| 7. | G.D.R. | 2,09,455 |
| 8. | Holland | 90,000 |
| 9. | Italy | 2,60,950 |
| 10. | Japan | 4,80,000 |
| 11. | Kuwait | 1,50,000 |
| 12. | Poland | 2,37,209 |

| (1) | (2) | (3) |
|-----|------------------------|-----------|
| 13. | Qatar | 11,000 |
| 14. | Romania | 2,14,837 |
| 15. | Spain | 20,000 |
| 16. | U.S.A. | 6,05,900 |
| 17. | U.K. | 1,35,000 |
| 18. | U.S.S.R. | 3,10,330 |
| 19. | West Germany | 3,21,000 |
| 20. | Yugoslavia | 10,000 |
| | | 35,38,425 |

(The above figures are PROVISIONAL)

Experiments in Artificial Rain

5908. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments to augment rainfall by artificial means were conducted over Rihand reservoir during the monsoon seasons of 1973 and 1974;

(b) to what extent these experiments were successful; and

(c) whether such experiments have been abandoned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An increase of 17 to 28 per cent in rainfall was claimed in 1973. The evaluation of the results of 1974 is not yet complete as the rainfall data for the period of the experiments is still not available from the State Government.

(c) No, Sir. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have not so far made any request for conducting such experiments during 1975.