

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) The import policy of the Government has been providing for the import of living plants, seeds and other plant material subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions and procedures contained in the Policy for the relevant years.

The seeds were being imported from different countries, like the USA, UK, Malaysia, Singapore etc.

(b) and (c). Consignments of Sunflower seeds were imported from the USSR in July 1987 and January 1988. Both these consignments were subjected to various plant quarantine screenings by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage and were released as they were not found to be contaminated with any diseases or pests.

[*Translation*]

Stone Quarries in Rajasthan

10130. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working in Kota stone quarries Ramganjmandi, Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether cess is collected from the owners of the quarries, if so, the rate of cess charged;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps contemplated for the upliftment of these labourers by imposing the cess on the quarry owners; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH

TYTLER) : (a) This information is not maintained.

(b) to (d). No cess is levied under any of the Welfare Fund Acts on Owners of Stone Quarries and there is no proposal to do so.

[*English*]

Subsidy on Foodgrains for Tribal Areas

10131. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of foodgrains in tribal areas is increasing day by day due to subsidy scheme on foodgrains;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has increased in each State; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c). This Ministry is not maintaining any date concerning consumption of foodgrains in tribal areas. However, there has been a moderate increase in the issues of wheat and rice under the scheme in 1987 over those in 1986.

Revamping of Haldia, Namrup and Barauni Fertilizer Plants

10132. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to revamp the Haldia, Namrup and Barauni fertilizer plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation;