

(a) whether excise duty on polyester and nylon yarn has recently been slashed Rs.30/- per kg;

(b) if so, whether the demand for yarn is far in excess of supply;

(c) if so, whether the yarn prices have already gone up by 6 to 7 per cent with unscrupulous spinners charging even premium; and

(d) if so, whether Union Government propose to set up high-powered national and district level representative committees to look into the supply position and price situation?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The excise duty on polyester and nylon yarn has been reduced by Rs. 27.63 and Rs.26.24 per kg. respectively.

(b) No, Sir. The domestic supply can be supplemented by imports under OGL.

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

Trade Gap between India and E.E.C.

7021. SHRI H.B PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the trade gap between India and the European Economic Community (EEC) countries is getting wider; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken up exports to EEC countries so as to reduce the

trade gap?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Even though there was an impressive increase in Indian exports to European Economic community in 1986-87, the deficit in India's trade vis-a-vis the community widened.

(b) Efforts continue to be made to increase Indian exports to the EEC countries through various trade promotion measures for product and market development.

Export of Diamond and Gold Jewellery

7022. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of diamond and gold jewellery exported during 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) the names of such exporters and the value of the gold exported by each of them; and

(c) from where they are getting gold to prepare jewellery?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Exports of diamonds and gold jewellery during the last years were as follows:

(Value Rs.crores)

	1986-87	1987-88
Diamond	1959.73	2440.23
Gold Jewellery	89.20	86.68

Source: GJEPC.