

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Country</i>	<i>Quantity in Kg.</i>	<i>Value in Rs.</i>
1	2	3	4
29.	Yemen Arab Republic	160	1,181
30.	Kenya	5,04,000	7,93,4000
31.	Somalia	180	23,800
32.	Sweden	298	45,063

Diamond Industry in Gujarat

8362. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether diamond industry in Gujarat is facing recession:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor:

(c) the steps taken by Union Government to help diamond industry: and

(d) whether the Chief Minister of Gujarat has also set up a high level committee to consider the various problems facing the diamond cutting and polishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) to (c). Due to comparatively lower international demand and higher inventory held by diamond trade, there has been a temporary slackening of manufacturing activities in diamond sector in Gujarat State. The Central Government has already liberalised the procedures, provided input support and announced Policy initiatives for the development of the Industry. These measures include relaxation in credit

norms, revised rates of replenishment, import of capital goods on OGL at concessional duty, etc.

(d) The State Government of Gujarat has recently formed a Diamond Development Board for the promotion and development of the Industry in the State.

News Items "Two Air-Hostesses Held for Smuggling"

8363. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Two air-hostesses held for smuggling" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 16 April, 1990;

(b) if so, the further action taken in the matter;

(c) the total number of gold smuggling cases that came into light during the last six months, month-wise; and

(d) the action taken against those who were found guilty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHAS-
TRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the case of Miss Zahra a com-
plaint for prosecution has since been filed in

the court of jurisdiction.

(c) Contraband gold worth Rs. 83 crores
approx. were seized by the Customs au-
thorities in 2006 cases during the last six
months as per details given below:

<i>Month/Year</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Qty of gold (in Kgs.)</i>	<i>Value of gold (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3	4
Oct '89	419	782.084	23.84
Nov.'89	320	259.981	8.39
Dec '89	332	258.030	8.33
Jan '89	305	263.347	8.84
Feb.'89	457	431.516	15.06
March '90	173	568.449	*18.61
	2006	2563.407	83.07

*Figures are provisional

(d) Persons found involved in smug-
gling are liable for penalty in departmental
adjudication and also prosecution in Courts
of Law. They are also liable for detention
under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange
and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act,
1974, if considered necessary.

Export of Fish and Prawns

8364. SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI ANBARASU ERA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of fish export
during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) whether prawn available on the west

coast of the country have a great demand in
foreign countries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to boost the
export thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-
ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) The total
quantum of marine products exported during
the last 2 years were:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity exported (in tonnes)</i>
1	2
1988-89	99777
1989-90 (Provisional)	106840

(Source: MPEDA, Cochin.)