

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, these representations come from time to time. I can share with the hon. Members some of the decisions which have been taken recently by the Ministry of Textiles in consultation with us on the representations of garment exporters.

Firstly, Sir, they wanted the Blanket Advance Licensing Scheme to be liberalised. This has been done. The Blanket Advance Licensing Scheme has been made applicable to garment exporters having an average NFE earning of Rs. 2 crores and above during the last three years.

Secondly, they wanted revision of input-output norms under Advance Licensing Scheme. We have increased the REP rate for Advance Licence from 10 per cent of Net Foreign Earnings to 20 per cent of Net Foreign Earnings.

Thirdly, they wanted duty concessions for trimmings and embellishments. This was earlier 10 per cent of the 20 per cent NFE. Now it is 10 per cent of 30 per cent NFE. Therefore, they have three per cent for trimmings and embellishments.

Fourthly, they wanted duty-free import of machinery. Both my colleague Shri Ashok Gehlot and I have strongly recommended to the Finance Minister that there must be a duty-free import of textile machinery with an export obligation to run into seven years. Unfortunately, the Finance Minister in the Budget has not accepted it. But both my colleague Gehlotji and I will persist in the matter and try to see whether duty-free import can be allowed. They wanted minimum export prices. Gehlotji has already announced that the minimum export prices in terms of dollars will become effective from 1-1-92. We will consider each one of them. If the hon. Member has anything particular in mind, please write to me and I will answer that point.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, the EEC has fixed a quota

for Indian garments. I would like to know whether the Government of India has proposed to increase that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is governed by the Multi-Fibre Agreement. They want MFA to continue and we want it to be terminated. We are now discussing it. Under GATT, we expect MFA to be rolled over for some time to time before an agreement is reached on how to wind it up; the moment MFA is in force, we cannot ask for anything more than what is prescribed in that. The details about it are with the Ministry of Textiles.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Iron Ore through Paradeep Port

*165. **SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Iron ore allotted to Paradeep Port to be handled and exported during 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) how it compares with the corresponding figures for the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Iron ore targetted for export and actual exports through Paradeep Port during 1990-91 and 1991-92 as also during the earlier two years are:

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Target	Actual exports
1988-89	14.00	16.40
1989-90	18.75	20.97
1990-91	22.50	16.97
1991-92	20.10	5.40 (up to 15-7-91)