

Qty. 1000/M. Ton

Value : Rs/Crore

	Production		Export	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1988-89	1388.6	N.A.	223.5	239.07
1989-90	1304.3	N.A.	236.7	296.40
1990-91	1429.9	N.A.	225.9	298.84

Gold Trust or Bond Scheme

345. SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D.
CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a gold trust or gold bond scheme;

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof;

(c) the total number and of bonds to be released and the main conditions regarding their redemption;

(d) the time by which the scheme is likely to be introduced;

(e) whether the Government propose to allow import of gold by Non-resident Indians and issue gold bonds to them; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) No, Sir. However, a number of suggestions have been received

by the Government from individuals as well as political parties to introduce Gold bond Scheme. These are being examined in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) to (f). Does not arise.

[English]

Widening of Vijayawada Ongole Section of National Highways No. 5 to six lanes

346. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vehicular traffic on Vijayawada-Ongole Section of National Highway No. 5 has increased considerably;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to widen this portion of National Highway to Six Lanes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Increase in traffic on National Highways is a continuous phenomenon. Vijayawada-Ongole Section of NH No. 5 does not have

sufficient traffic at present to warrant its widening from existing two lanes to four/six-lanes, which will also depend on availability of resources and inter-se priorities.

**Construction of Bridge across
Krishna river in Andhra Pradesh**

347. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any proposal to construct a road bridge across the Krishna river connecting Krishna and Guntur districts of Puligodda and Penumudi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Import of Maize

348. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of maize due to drought conditions in several States and sufficient quantity of maize is not available to meet the demand of starch industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to import maize to meet the demand; and

(c) if not, the alternative steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). While there is a possibility of a slight shortfall in production of maize in the current year, the situation at present does not appear to warrant imports.

**Changes in Readymade Garments
Export Policy**

350. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any suggestions from the Apparels Export Promotion Council for changes in the policy regarding export of ready made garments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). The Government had received suggestions from Apparel Export Promotion Council and different sectors of the garment export trade for certain modifications in the provisions of the Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy for 1991-93. After examining various suggestions, Government have made the following changes in the Policy for the year 1992 and 1993:

(1) For 1992 and 1993, only quantities that become available from time to time on account of flexibilities and surrenders shall be allocated under the F.C.F.S. system.

(2) i) The percentage of allocation under the Manufacturer-Exporter Entitlement (MEE) System has been