

films on smuggling produced by the Films Division in major Indian languages ;

- (iv) Telecast of static and movie spots ;
- (v) Printing of a message that "smuggling harms the nation" on the labels of notifications and other materials despatched to various members of the public and trade.

(d) Appropriate economic and fiscal measures have been taken to increase the domestic production of quality goods at internationally competitive prices in respect of certain sensitive items like watches, electronics, etc. to dispel the craze for foreign goods. Besides, intelligence-based, concerted raids and searches are carried out against the open display and sale of foreign goods.

Leakage of Amonia Gas in Industrial Township of Nagda

5965. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether amonia gas leaked from the Birla—owned Grasim factory in the industrial township of Nagda in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) whether Government are aware of such leakage as reported in the 'Indian Express' of the 22nd April, 1985 ; and

(c) if so, action Government propose to take against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Company has reported that adequate precautionary steps have been

taken in the matter and the incident has been reported to the concerned State Government authorities, who have inspected the spot of leakage on the same day. The matter has been referred to the State Government for comments with a view to taking further necessary action.

Export of Cut and Polished Diamonds

5966. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of cut and polished diamonds has registered a fall in 1984-85;

(b) if so, the reasons in this regard; and

(c) the total amount worth of cut and polished diamonds exported from India in the past three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the reasons for the marginal decline in the export of cut and polished diamonds included general recessionary market conditions besides hike in interest rates in major markets abroad, reluctance on the part of Indian exporters to sell on long term credits, and the rising strength of the dollar.

(c) The provisional value of exports of cut and polished diamonds from India in the past three years was :

(Value in Rs. crores)

| | | |
|-------------|------------|---------|
| April, 1982 | March 1983 | 912.83 |
| April, 1983 | March 1984 | 1188.89 |
| April, 1984 | March 1985 | 1172.10 |

Steps to Save Doon Valley and Shivalik Hills in U.P. from Losing Fertility

5967. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doon Valley and Shivalik hills in Uttar Pradesh are still being destroyed to obtain wood, stone and other minerals;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to affect adversely the fertility of fertile plains in Meerut Division in future; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to save plains from losing its fertility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Mining operations for limestone/rock-phosphate in Doon Valley on the Garhwal Division have been curtailed severely to minimise the adverse effects of such operations upon environment and ecology. In compliance with the Supreme Court's order dated 12-3-85, several mines have been closed permanently, 19 mines are being scrutinised by High Powered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court itself and only 6 mines at present have been allowed to continue mining operation. Abandoned mines are now being taken up for reclamation with the help of Eco-Task Force of the Department of Environment. Ban on green-felling continues to be in operation above an altitude of 1000 m. or on slopes steeper than 30 degrees.

(b) and (c). Since no mining activities are being carried on in the south slopes of the Sivalik range adjoining Meerut Division, the question of adverse effect of mining upon the fertility of the plains in Meerut Division does not arise.

Import of Polyester Filament Yarn

5968. PROF. BIMAL KANFI

GHOSH: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of polyester filament yarn imported during the Sixth Five Year Plan period 1980-85 as compared to the target fixed for such imports;

(b) whether the actual import was in excess of the target initially fixed for such imports during the said period, the reasons thereof;

(c) the demand for polyester filament yarn in the country and indigenous production during the same period;

(d) the Seventh Plan target for indigenous production and imports of polyester filament yarn; and

(e) the year-wise break up of (a) to (d) above ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (e). No target for import of polyester filament yarn during the Sixth Five Year Plan period was fixed. Demand for Polyester Filament Yarn during 1984-85 (at the end of Sixth Five Year Plan period) was estimated at 30,000 tonnes.

A Statement showing indigenous production and imports of Polyester Filament Yarn is enclosed.

(d) The Working Group on Textile Industry for the Seventh Five Year Plan has estimated the demand for Polyester Filament Yarn to be 78,000 tonnes by 1989-90.

Statement

(Quantity in tonnes)

| Year | Production of Polyester Filament Yarn | Imports of Polyester Filament Yarn |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1980-81 | 10,685 | 11,072 |
| 1981-82 | 15,508 | 16,620 |