

Illegal Forward Trading Activities

3381. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal forward trading activities have increased during 1986 and 1987;

(b) whether Union Government are contemplating to bring in amendments to the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, to give more teeth to the Act; and

(c) if not, what other steps are contemplated by Government to curb illegal forward trading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) On the basis of information received from the Forward Markets Commission, it appears that there is no increase in illegal forward trading activities during 1986 and 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Raw Materials for Polyester Staple Fibre

3382. SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken into account the availability of raw materials to utilise the indigenous capacity of production of polyester staple fibre in the country before a decision to canalise import of this item was taken; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any mechanism to check the rise in prices of the textile goods with polyester staple fibre contents in the indigenous market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present there is no price control on textile goods. However the prices are kept under constant watch by the Government.

Price of Truck Tyres

3383. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain tyre manufacturers are not deliberately utilising their full capacity and creating artificial shortage in order to take the advantage of rising prices:

(b) if so, whether Government have discussed this aspect with tyre manufacturers; and

(c) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). There have been complaints regarding formation of a cartel and adoption of restrictive trade practices on the part of the tyre manufacturers as a result of which market forces are not permitted to have free play. The Government have referred the matter to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission for necessary action.

Allocation of Funds for Khadi Production

3384. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of money for Khadi