

month to resume purchase negotiations with the Textile Mills for 55 million metres of cloth ;

(b) whether the Soviet delegation agreed to renegotiate prices in view of the surge in the raw cotton prices and the Mills not being in a position to sell at lower prices ; and

(c) if so, the details of the agreement reached, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c). According to the information made available by the Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council (Texprocil), a one man delegation from the Soviet Buying Agency visited Bombay from 11th to 19th February, 1987 for purchasing textiles. The shippers have informed Texprocil that the Soviet Buying Agency was not prepared to give any such price increase.

#### Export of Silk

3644. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the total value of export of natural silk goods namely mulberry tasar silk, mixed blended silk and silk waste during 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : The value of exports of natural silk goods during the year 1986-87 (April, 1986 to February, 1987) is as under :

ITEM	VALUE (Rs. in crores)
(1) Mulberry	170.21
(2) Tasar	5.90
(3) Mixed/Blended	4.54
(4) Silk waste	1.28
<b>Total :</b>	<b>181.93</b>

#### West German assistance for reducing Trade Deficit

3645. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sought the assistance of West Germany to reduce India's trade deficit ; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance proposed to be given by West Germany ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b). The Government has raised at different for the question of India's large trade deficit with the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and has sought the latter's assistance in reducing this trade deficit. The FRG has offered to provide trade promotion assistance to India, and Indian requests in respect of several commodities in this regard are under examination by the FRG Government.

#### Payment of Gratuity to Dismissed Employees

3646. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3534 on 26 November, 1986 regarding payment of gratuity to dismissed employees and state :

(a) whether a Review Petition in the Supreme Court has been filed ;

(b) if so, when ; and

(c) if not, whether the pension regulations have been amended, with their details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 22nd December, 1986.

(c) Does not arise.