

Trade Deficit in terms of US Dollars

361. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) India's trade deficit in terms of US dollars as on 31st March, 1988;
- (b) corresponding figures for the previous three years; and
- (c) the reasons for increase in trade deficit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b). India's annual trade deficit in terms of US Dollars during the last four years are given below :

Year	Trade deficit in million US Dollars
1984-85	4534
1985-86	7162
1986-87 (R)	5972
1987-88 (P)	5109

(R) Revised. (P) Provisional

The trade deficit has declined successively during the last 2 years.

- (c) Does not arise.

Closure of Textile Mills

362. SHRI NATVARSINH SOLANKI : SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total number of textile mills closed in various parts of the country, a large number of them were closed after the new textile policy announced in June, 1985;

(b) if so, to what extent such large number of closures were as a result of the new textile policy;

(c) whether Union Government propose to justify the success of new textile policy

such as revival in demand, fall in prices, increase in employment, increase in per capita cloth consumption, etc; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The closure of textile mills is indicative of a structural transformation in the textile industry.

(c) and (d). During the last 3 years of the Policy, the textile industry as a whole has shown improvement in terms of production as well as exports. In terms of index number of wholesale prices mill cotton cloth has shown only a marginal increase from May, 1985 to May, 1988 whereas nylon/terene and mixed cloth actually declined. The per capita consumption of textiles in the household sector which was 13.83 metres in 1984 was estimated at 17.16 metres in 1987. So far as employment is concerned, while the work force in the organised sector of the textile industry has come down, it is estimated to have increased in the decentralised sector.

MOU Signed by SBI with EEP

363. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India has signed any Memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Engineering Export Promotion Council for boosting exports of engineering products;

(b) if so, the main features of the MOU; and

(c) the arrangements, if any, for review of the implementation of the MOU ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that it has not as yet signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) for boosting exports of engineering products from India.