

Regarding import of Polyester staple fibre at international rate

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA): Madam, I would like to bring to the attention of this House a policy of this Government, which is completely motivated by rank and blatant crony capitalism.

The polyester staple fibre is a necessary raw material for our textile industry. The international price is Rs. 80 a unit whereas the domestic price is Rs. 110 a unit. This Government has come up with a quality control order, which is a non-tariff barrier, which prohibits imports into the country to protect certain manufacturers who are profiteering from the high price in India. Due to this high price, our textile units are becoming unviable. In fact, there are very few manufacturers in India, who make polyester staple fibre, but there are many textile units which need to use it as a raw material. This Government is interested in protecting the interest of only a few. In fact, the biggest beneficiary of this non-tariff barrier is an A-lister company. Everybody knows who I mean when I say 'one of the A-lister companies'.

This blatant crony capitalism must be scrapped; this quality control order must be withdrawn; and the Indian textile units must be able to import polyester staple fibre at international prices so that the products manufactured by them are competitive. This crony capitalism must end right now.

Thank you, Madam.