

practice the commercial delegations are free to come and negotiate contracts with their trading partners in India and are not required to report to Government the details of contracts concluded.

**Rate of replenishment for rough diamonds**

\*934. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the rate of replenishment for rough diamonds against export of polished diamonds is 87 per cent;

(b) how much is the import of rough diamonds per year;

(c) is it also a fact that the Chairman of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council has conveyed to Government that 65 per cent replenishment is adequate;

(d) if so, the reason why Government are allowing 87 per cent replenishment; and

(e) if not, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The rate of import replenishment for rough diamonds against export of cut and polished diamond varies from 65 per cent to 87 per cent depending on the size of diamonds exported and per carat value realisation. The rate of import replenishment of diamonds unset and uncut is 87 per cent only, where the size of each diamond exported is 3 of a carat and above, with a minimum per carat realisation of not less than Rs. 3,250/-.

(b) The value of import in 1978-79 was Rs. 458/- crores. In 1979-80 (upto January, 1980), the import was valued Rs. 318 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A separate classification has been created with higher import replenishment at 87 per cent, with a view

to encourage exports of high quality large size diamonds.

**International cardamom community**

\*935. SHRI B. K. NAIR:  
SHRI V. S. VIJAYRAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an International Cardamom Community; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). A proposal to establish an International Cardamom Community consisting of four major cardamom producing countries namely India, Guatemala, Tanzania and Sri Lanka, has been under consideration for some time. The objectives of the proposed Community would be to undertake joining market development programmes, evolve formal or informal understanding on pricing, exchange information relating to production, research, etc. for the common benefit of the member-countries, and to further joint action for the relaxation of tariff and non-tariff barriers and for the removal of other obstacles to trade. While India, Tanzania and Sri Lanka have agreed in principle to the formation of the said Community, the matter is still under consideration of Guatemalan Government.

**Smuggling of Cottonseed, Coconut Oil etc.**

\*937. SHRI B. V. DESAI:  
SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of cottonseed, coconut oil and palm stearine are being imported by the private trade in contravention of the import trade regulation;