

Statement

(a) and (b). Steps are being taken to augment indigenous production of Di Methyl Terephthalate (DMT) and Mono-Ethylene Glycol (MEG), which are the raw materials required for the manufacture of polyester staple fibre/polyester filament yarn. Meanwhile, to fill the gap between domestic demand and production and also to maintain the prices of the finished products import of polyester filament yarn has been allowed as announced under the Department of Commerce Public Notice, No. 9-ITCPN/79, dated 29th January, 1979. The existing level of Customs' duty provides legitimate protection to indigenous producers of this yarn.

Arbitration of disputes between Government of India and foreign investors

971. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed the convention formulated and signed by the World Bank's international centre for settlement of investment disputes and by the Asian-African legal Consultative Committee, providing for arbitration of disputes between the Government of India and foreign investors under the international convention; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Having regard to our laws and our policies relating to foreign investment, it is felt that ratification of the convention is not necessary.

Action against the Apparel Export Promotion Council

972. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action against the Apparel Export

Promotion Council for the heavy losses that garment exporters have suffered as a result of the wrong actions and policies of the Council; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the names of offices responsible for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) With regard to implementation of quota distribution policy, the Apparel Export Promotion Council functions in accordance with the policy guidelines framed by the Government. No specific instance has been brought to the notice of the Government regarding wrong action of the Council being directly responsible for the losses, if any, suffered by the garment exporters.

(b) Does not arise.

Creation of more accommodation in ITDC hotels

973. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a scheme to create more accommodation in the existing hotels run by the India Tourism Development Corporation; and

(b) if so the names of the particular hotels where accommodation is proposed to be expanded and what are the main features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). A statement is attached furnishing the required information,