ORAL QUESTION H-0031/02 for Question Time at the part-session in February 2002 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Per Gahrton to the Commission

Subject: EU subsidies and Gislaved

The closure of the efficient, profitable and moreover environmentally friendly tyre factory in Gislaved, Sweden, has been vigorously criticised. According to media reports in 'Dagens Arbete' EU subsidies were a decisive factor in the German parent company, Continental's decision to increase output in Lousado, Portugal, although it has been calculated that without the EU subsidies it would have been more profitable to increase capacity in Gislaved. Both the local councillor and the Swedish Government Minister dealing with the matter claim to know nothing about the role played by EU subsidies in this affair.

What EU subsidies are being granted in this case?

Tabled: 16.01.2002 sv

459291.EN