

Textile Export

889. SHRI RAMCHANDRIAYA RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the share of India's textile export; and
- (b) the steps taken to provide a large market for textiles export, especially by negotiations at the W.T.O, meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES: (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) As per data available for the year 1997, India's share of the world textile exports is about 2.5%.

- (b)
 - (i) The Government is trying for faster integration under Agreement of Textiles & Clothing at all appropriate Fora.
 - (ii) Meetings have been held recently with US and EU where our case for greater market access has been emphasised.
 - (Hi) The Quota Restrictions imposed by Turkey were challenged in Dispute Settlement Body of WTO and case has been decided in the favour of India.
- (iv) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to increase exporters. Some of the important initiatives taken specifically in respect of the textile sector are as under:—
 - (1) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, which has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade.
 - (2) The New Exporters' Entitlement (Quota) Policy for the period 2000-2004 announced recently to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
 - (3) Non-Quota Entitlement (NQE) System for encouraging non-quota exports to quota and non-quota countries has been retained to boost exports in apparel sector value added segment of Indian textiles.
 - (4) Reduction in the threshold limit of the Zero Duty Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme in respect of certain prescribed textile machinery to Rs. one crores.

- (5) Liberalisation of exports of cotton yarn by Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/Export Promotion Zone (EPZ)/EPCG units.
- (6) Zero Duty import of certain categories of trimmings & embellishments.

Quota Regime in Textile Exports

890. SHRI K. KALAVANKATA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to remove quota regime in textile export market;
- (b) if so, Government's plans in this regard; and
- (c) the other steps taken to give benefit to textile exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Under the Agreement on Textile & Clothing, which is in effect from 1-1-1995, the quotas by importing developed countries, i.e., USA, Canada and the countries of European Union, are getting phased out. These will get phased out completely by 31.12-2004.

(c) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to benefit exporters. Some of the important initiatives taken specifically in respect of the textile sector are as under:—

- (i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, which has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade.
- (ii) The New Exporters' Entitlement (Quota) Policy for the period 2000-2004 announced recently to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
- (iii) Reduction in the threshold limit of the Zero Duty Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme in respect of certain prescribed textile machinery to Rs. one crores.