

1	2	3	4
4.	Design and Techn. Dev.	3.00	Laxmipur and Jorhat
5.	Training	9.12	Guwahati, Nalbari, Dhubri, Nagoan, Boidura Halflong, Karimganj, Sandholi and Barapata

Setting up Cotton Board at Hyderabad

2293. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government had submitted a proposal on 17th November, 1996 for setting up statutory Cotton Board, with headquarters at Hyderabad, on the lines of Coffee Board, Tobacco Board, etc.; and

(b) if so, the action taken on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) In 1998, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written a letter to the Prime Minister of India, *inter alia*, suggesting for setting up of an All India Cotton Board on the lines of Tobacco Board etc. to look into all aspects of cotton. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was informed that there are already a few bodies/agencies, such as Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), The Directorate of Cotton Development (DCD), Indian Cotton Development Council (ICDC) and Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) to take care of the growth of cotton sector and there is no need for a separate Cotton Board.

Objections of AIHFMC Society on New Textile Policy

2294. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited has urged the Union Government not to accept the recommendations of the Satyam Committee for drafting the new textile policy;

(b) if so, the objections raised by them; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to help the Handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The main objections relate to the recommendations on the Hank Yarn Obligation Order and the Handloom Reservation Act. The Society has pointed out that if the Hank Yarn Obligation order and the Handloom Reservation Act are done away with, it would lead to major problems for the handloom sector which is already suffering from various handicaps, therefore the Government should not accept the recommendations.

While finalising the New Textile Policy, the points raised by the All India Handloom Fabric Marketing Cooperative Society will be kept in mind.