

I. Handloom Sector:

U.S.

(i) Removal of restraints on Category 369-O (Other Cotton made-ups);

(ii) providing additional 5% quota for 100% cotton garments made of handloom fabrics in Categories 334/634 (Men's and boys coats) and 351/651 (Pyjamas and nightwear).

E.U.

Removal of restrictions on handloom and cottage industry products and exceptional flexibilities of 7,000 tonnes per year for the period 1995 to 1997 and 8,000 tonnes for the period 1998 to 2004.

ii. Powerloom Sector:

U.S.

(i) Removal of restraints on Cat 369-O (Other Cotton made-ups);

(ii) increase in base level for the categories 218 (Yarn Dyed Fabrics), 239 (Duck Fabrics) and Group II and (iii) providing additional flexibilities in categories 363 (Terry towels) and 313.

E.U.

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Exceptional flexibilities of 7,000 tonnes per year for the period 1995 to 1997 and 8,000 tonnes for the period 1998 to 2004.

(b) The market access agreements are expected to provide a substantial fillip to our exports to the U.S.A. and the E.U. countries. As regards imports, the import duty barrier is still appreciable and imports of apparel, made ups and fabrics (except some industrial fabrics) are being allowed for the present only under the Special Import Licence route, which is limited in extent. Thus large scale imports of textiles are not likely in the near future as a consequence of the market access agreements.

Export-Oriented Cotton and Synthetic Spinning Unit in North Kerala

3489. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by a group of NRIs based at Indonesia for establishment of an export-oriented cotton and synthetic spinning unit in North Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof with terms and conditions;

(c) whether Government propose to ask other State Governments to explore similar possibilities of establishment of such units in their respective States and Union Territories to generate more avenues of employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) The scheme for Export Oriented Units envisages duty free procurement of capital goods and raw material etc. for export production and under the Scheme foreign/NRI equity upto 100 per cent is permissible. Such units can be set up in any part of the country, subject to the Government's locational guidelines. However, the details of the MOUs signed by NRIs based in various countries for setting up 100 per cent EOUs in different parts of the country become known to the Government only when the concerned Indian parties seek approvals required from the agencies concerned.

Export Oriented Spinning Mills

3490. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

((a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some export-oriented spinning mills;

(b) if so, the names of the States where these new spinning mills are proposed to be set up;

(c) whether any such export oriented spinning mills is proposed to be set up in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a)
No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Export of Silk

3491. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be
pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the export of silk during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 and achievements made in those years;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to increase the export of silk; and

(c) if so, the projection made for 1995-96 and 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a)
to (c) The Government does not encourage export of raw silk and as such neither targets were set for its export during the years 1992-93 to 1994-95 nor projections have been made for its export during the years 1995-96 & 1996-97.

However, sustained efforts are being made to increase exports of silk textile products and foreign exchange earnings in this regard in the last 3 years were as below:—

Year	(In Rs. crores)	
	Exports	
1992-93	734.22	
1993-94	789.10	
1994-95	848.79	
Apr. '94-Feb. '95)		

While projections for 1996-97 have not been made so far, the projections for silk textile exports for 1995-96 are Rs. 1030 crores (320 Million US Dollars).

Closed Textile Mills in M.P.

3492. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of textile mills in Madhya Pradesh have either been closed or are at the verge of closure rendering thousands of workers jobless due to the closure and sickness of these mills;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take for the revival of textile mills in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a)
and (b) As on 31.1.95, there were 7 Cotton/jute-made Fibre Textile Mills reported to be closed affecting 18749 workers in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Government have set up Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to evolve and manage rehabilitation packages in respect of viable closed/sick mills.

Impact of Cheap Textile Import

3493. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in the 'Financial Express', New Delhi, dated the 28th February, 1995 under the caption "Cheap textile import may lead to Rupees 3000 crore revenue loss' to the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether it does not help in making the domestic textile sector competitive against cheap textile imports through Special Import Licence (SIL).