

यह कहा गया है, इससे काफी इंडस्ट्रीज को राहत और लाभ प्राप्त होगा। यह effect अगले मॉनसून तक रहेगा, लेकिन जितना effect वेस्टर्न कंट्रीज पर है, उतना effect इंडिया पर नहीं होगा।

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन: सभापति महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में कानपुर नगर जो टेक्सटाइल मिलों का एक बहुत बड़ा गढ़ रहा है, वहाँ पर उन मिलों की हालत बहुत ही खराब है और वहाँ के सारे मजदूर बेकार बैठे हुए हैं। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने वहाँ की टेक्सटाइल मिलों की जमीनों को बेचकर उन मिलों को पुनः प्रारंभ कराने के आश्वासन दिये हैं, लेकिन इस संबंध में अभी तक कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है और टेक्सटाइल मिलें अभी भी बंद पड़ी हुई हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि वहाँ जो बी.आई.सी. एवं अन्य टेक्सटाइल मिलें बंद पड़ी हैं और जिनकी जमीनें भी बेची जा चुकी हैं, उनको वह कब तक चालू कराने की व्यवस्था करा रहे हैं?

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला: सर, एनटीसी का सब्जेक्ट अलग है। लेकिन एनटीसी के लिए हमने 22 मिलें मॉडर्न की हैं और उसका performance भी काफी अच्छा है। बाकी 18 मिलें हमने joint venture में शुरू की हैं। जहाँ तक कानपुर के बी.आई.सी. और एल्लिन मिलों का सवाल है, इनके बारे में हमने कैबिनेट को पेपर भेजे हैं। एनटीसी के नीचे ऐसा कोई वर्कर नहीं है जिसे तनखाह नहीं मिलती है। अगर मिल बंद भी है तब भी जो टेक्सटाइल वर्कर है, उसे समय पर तनखाह मिल जाती है। बीआईसी के लोगों के लिए भी हमने एनटीसी से लोन लेकर तनखाह देने का प्रावधान किया था।

Development of leather sector

*124. MS. MABEL REBELLO:††

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to grant Rs. 913 crore for development of leather sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of leather park projects and which are the places where such parks are proposed to be located in the country; and

(d) the action plan under the above project to upgrade the skills of rural artisans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Central Government has approved eleven sub-schemes for implementation during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period under Indian Leather Development Programme (ILDP). The details of these sub-schemes are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the sub-scheme under ILDP	Allocation for Eleventh Five Year Plan (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Integrated Development of Leather Sector	253.43

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Ms. Mabel Rebello.

1	2	3
2.	Leather Complex, Nellore	29.00
3.	Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Fursatganj	7.17
4.	Footwear Complex, Chennai	3.00
5.	Saddlery Development	10.00
6.	Support to Artisan	40.00
7.	Human Resource Development	60.00
8.	Upgradation and Establishment of Institutional facilities	300.07
9.	Environment Initiatives	200.00
10.	Mission Mode	10.00
11.	Establishment of Training Centre in Madhya Pradesh	24.85
	Total	937.52

(c) During the Tenth Five Year Plan the Central Government has implemented three sub-schemes under ILDP, viz., Leather Goods Park at Kolkata, a Footwear Component Park at Chennai and a Footwear Complex at Chennai with Central Assistance of Rs. 5 crores, Rs. 10 crores and Rs. 14 crores respectively. The Leather Goods Park at Kolkata and the Footwear Component Park at Chennai have been established. Common infrastructure of the Footwear Complex at Chennai has been completed and the Park is expected to be established during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. Further, the Central Government has also approved establishment of a Leather Complex at Nellore during the Eleventh Five Year Plan with Central Assistance of Rs. 29 crores under ILDP. The Leather Complex at Nellore is expected to be established during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period.

(d) During the Tenth Plan period, the sub-scheme, viz., Support to Rural Artisans with an allocation of Rs. 5 crores was implemented under ILDP which *inter-alia* aimed upgrading the skills of rural artisans along-with providing marketing support and design development and the total amount was released towards its implementation during the plan period. The sub-scheme, Support to Artisans, with an allocation of Rs. 40 crores under ILDP has been approved by the Central Government for implementation during Eleventh Five Year Plan period. Under this sub-scheme, interventions in Rajasthan (Jaipur, Alwar, and Jodhpur); Punjab; and Karnataka (Athani) are under implementation. Another, sub-scheme, Human Resource Development, with an allocation of Rs. 60 crores under ILDP for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period would *inter-alia* help in upgradation of skills of rural artisans as the sub-scheme envisages skill development and skill up-gradation programmes.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, in the reply given, it is said that in the Eleventh Plan, Rs. 937 crores would be utilised for various developmental schemes. In that, support for artisans and

human resources development hardly Rs. 100 crores is provided. In this country, textiles and leather industry is handmade industry, it is a handicraft, it is an intricate work. Unless and until you invest on human resources development and train artisans and improve their skills, you cannot make money. Sir, even de-skinning of animals today....

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, I am coming to the question. The deskinning of animals is done very badly and that is why the leather tears. We, in India, although are the largest milk producing country and having the largest number of animals, are importing skins from Russia and Bangladesh. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why are we, a country of a hundred crore plus people, not investing more on human resources to improve their skills so that this leather can be used and value addition can be there and we can create jobs and help people make money?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, I share the concern of the hon. Member. But, I have reason to believe that she would be satisfied if I made a comparison of what we had done in the Tenth Plan for human resources development and for promoting the artisans.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, it is an ongoing process!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, in the Tenth Plan, the allocation for human resources was a mere Rs. 10 crores, it has been increased to six fold, to Rs. 60 crores. In the Tenth Plan, support to artisans, through various programmes was of the level of Rs. 5 crores; it has been increased by eight times, to Rs. 40 crores. Out of Rs. 937 crores that will be spent in the Eleventh Plan, we have eleven sub-schemes and all of those are important. Human resources development is certainly very important and, Sir, I would like the hon. Member to be reassured that Rs. 100 crores is almost a seven-fold increase in the Tenth Plan. It will continue to be increased gradually. We also have to have absorptive capacity of training that many people, we have to have trained teachers in that process and I can only elaborate that in order to show how serious this Government is on the subject, we have already expended in the first two years of the Eleventh Plan, about Rs. 12 crores on this project. Out of which, Rs. 4.6 crores has already been released and the rest is going to be released.

Sir, the last point in response to this question I would like to make is that it is true that the skills upgradation of artisans is critical. 30 per cent of the roughly 20 lakh people employed in this industry, as on 2005, have been covered and most of them are from the weaker sections. This Government's proclaimed priority is the uplift of the weaker sections and all that is physically and humanly possible within the constraints, we have done and we shall be doing in future also.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, my second supplementary is, Rs. 300 crores is the provision that has been made for upgradation and establishment of institutional facilities and it is

Rs. 200 crores for environmental initiatives. The details of which are not given anywhere. Out of Rs. 937 crores, these two heads — upgradation and establishment and environmental initiatives — are taking Rs. 500 crores. Almost, it is 60 per cent of the allocation. They also have given here where are the institutions and the money given to them to start, in Chennai, in Nellore, in Madhya Pradesh and all that. Why is that so much money is invested? More than 60 per cent is invested in institutional upgradation. Sir, institutional buildings do not matter, it is the skills of the people that matter. It is the artisans' job. If he has fine skills, he can help people make money. Why is that we are investing only in physical infrastructure? Sir, a provision has already been made to assist the institutions and again...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: My question is why there is this duplication. Already there are institutions that have been named and provisions have been made to assist them. Again a provision of lump sum amount has been made for assisting institutions...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Why is there this duplication?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fine, thank you.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: I would like to have all the details.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is why there is this duplication. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us have the answer now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, I should have thought that the hon. Member could have called me to account for saying, 'Why are you spending less on these two and not why are you spending so much on these two.' Sir, may I just say that one of the most. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MS. MABEL REBELLO: He is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a serious matter. Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, one of the most critical aspects of any industry's development is to create the requisite infrastructure, which is necessary to build up the capabilities on a long-term basis. This is an on-going process. In this Plan, on the basis of the reports of the experts, on the basis of the Government's assessment of the need, we thought that it would be necessary for us to spend at least this much on these two subheads. I would have wanted to do more on this; I would have wanted to get more money for this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am afraid this is not acceptable. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, therefore, all I am submitting for the consideration of the hon. Members and of the House is that upgradation of that institutional facilities is required to give the

necessary impetus, required to give the necessary quality, required to give the necessary comparative advantages to our leather industry to make it more economically viable. There are schemes whereby we create infrastructure facilities for common use of people involved in the leather sector. Hon. Chairman is aware as is the House that leather industry is a fragmented industry, they are small players. There are hardly any large players who can afford to set institutional facilities. Therefore, the Government has to intervene proactively in these matters. The next, Sir, is the environmental initiative. Leather industry, tanneries are great polluters. We all know that. That is why in Kolkata where we have a large number of people engaged in this trade, many industries have had to close down because they could not come up with the environmental standards that are required to be fulfilled. Therefore, the Government has provided support for various initiatives. As for the details of how this money is to be spent, I will be more than happy to give to the hon. Member the details of how Rs. 200 crores is going to be utilised. In my view, we need to do more here not less.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I am under the impression that they have made an overall study to understand the total potentiality before going for leather complex. In such a situation my question is, what are all your criteria to choose leather complex, whether it is discretion-driven, or demand-driven or any other considerations.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, these are traditional sectors of industrial activity in various parts of the country, Kanpur, Agra, Jalandhar, Kolkata, etc., where we have already clusters that are engaged very intensively in this activity. So, the availability of skilled manpower, the availability of existing structures guide the determination of where more such facilities should be set up. Having said that, Sir, we are always open to setting up new centres wherever we see the demand. But these are concentrated industries, concentrated for various reasons — reasons of availability of raw material, skilled manpower so on and so forth. They have tended to remain in clusters in certain areas, for example, Ambur in Chennai, which is a very, very highly developed leather cluster. I had myself planned to visit that cluster and we are going to give all the support that is required. Our first task is and should be to upgrade the existing facilities and, then, if necessary to move on wherever these are required.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister that in order to enhance the capacity and increase investment in the sector, the Integrated Development of Leather Sector is providing at present only Rs. 50 lakhs to new units for assistance. Is there any proposal to increase the amount of subsidy and assistance to the newly established unit in the Eleventh Plan?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, as of now, the scheme continues the way it was formulated. But, I would like to assure the hon. Member that all policy initiatives are in a State of continuous revaluation and if a case is made out for larger incentives we shall favourably consider those incentives. Considering the fact that this industry is labour intensive, we want to promote employment amongst the weaker sections.