

Mission Khadi

431. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of 'Mission Khadi';
- (b) when 'Mission Khadi' was launched by Government;
- (c) whether Government are thinking of targeting only urban people through the above Mission or it is also thinking of touching the global market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission started implementation of the "Mission Khadi" in 2005-06 with the aims of gradually increasing the production of ready-to-use/ wear khadi products, standardising these products, selling them under a common brand and assisting this process by establishing common facility centres to service small khadi institutions.

(c) and (d) Mission Khadi targets both domestic (rural as well as urban) and international consumers.

(e) Does not arise.

Status of agro and rural industries under SEZ

432. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

- (a) whether Government have factored the status of agro and rural industries under the Special Economic Zones (SEZs);
- (b) if so, the details of its policy frame-work;
- (c) whether Government purpose to ensure that agro and rural industries receive due prominence and development initiative in the SEZs; and