

Under the Scheme, during the current financial year 17 proposals to organize the exhibitions of various levels have been sanctioned for the State of Maharashtra.

- **Mill Gate Price Scheme**

This scheme makes available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom agencies to facilitate regular supply of basic raw material to the handloom weavers and to optimize their employment potential. Under the Mill Gate Price Scheme during 2009-10, 0.78 lakh kgs. of yarn valuing Rs. 106.31 lakh was supplied in the State of Maharashtra.

- **Diversified Handloom Development Scheme**

This scheme provides assistance for technological and skill upgradation of weavers for design and product development through **25 Weavers' Service Centres and 05 Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology** all over the country to improve the productivity and earnings of the handloom weavers. 2 Weavers' Service Centres at Mumbai and Nagpur are functioning in Maharashtra.

Suspending sanction of projects under TUFS

408. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has suspended sanction of projects under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for suspension of sanctioning such projects;

(c) whether Government has also received representation from textile units to resume new sanctions under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, the expenditure and committed liabilities upto June 2010 have exceeded the 11th Plan allocation of Rs.8000 crores. In this backdrop, Government has suspended sanction of new projects under the Scheme. Representations have been received from Textile Associations to resume new sanctions. Stakeholders meetings have been held and status of resource availability intimated.