

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that to achieve the above, technological upgradation is required urgently;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to enhance the technological upgradation fund scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A target of US Dollar 14 billion has been fixed for garment exports for the year 2011-12. This has been prescribed following a review by the Government of the export performance of various Textiles Exports Promotion Councils during 2010-11.

(c) Technological upgradation is essential for imparting quality and cost effectiveness apart from enhancing competitiveness, in the global markets.

(d) and (e) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been restructured *w.e.f.* 28.4.2011, with enhancement of allocations, during Eleventh Five Year Plan, from Rs. 8000 crore to Rs. 15,404 crore.

Skill development programme for artisans

1217. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has directed the National Centre for Design and Product Development (NCDPD) and Export Promotion Council for Handicraft (EPCH) to initiate capacity and skill development programmes for artisans across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Plan is to train over 7000 artisans spread across the 30 clusters under the Human Resource Development scheme of artists and craftsmen;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the aim of the Programme is to improve the quality of handicrafts, make them competitive in the international market, improve the skills of craftsmen, upgrade technology, improve design etc.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) National Centre for Design and Product Development (NCDPD) has been sanctioned Capacity Building Programmes for artisans across the country with the objective to upgrade the existing skill as well as to add the additional skill in

the field of manufacturing process, new and innovative technology, modern tool and equipment, Product development and in the field of marketing. However no such training programme has been sanctioned to Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Plan is to train 7000 artisans in 37 craft concentrated areas all over the country. The details are given below:—

Venue/Cluster	No. of programmes	No. of beneficiaries
1	2	3
Agra	10	200
Firozabad	10	200
Saharanpur	10	200
Lucknow	10	200
Varanasi	05	100
Dehradun/Almorah/Nainital	10	200
Kanpur	05	100
Srinagar/Jammu	10	200
Jodhpur	10	200
Jaipur	05	100
Udaipur	10	200
Delhi	40	800
Palampur/Kullu	05	100
Chennai	15	300
Hyderabad	05	100
Narsapur	05	100
Trivandrum/Thrissur	10	200
Ernakulam	05	100
Mysore	05	100
Pondicherry	05	100
Ahmedabad	10	200
Indore/Bhopal	10	200

	1	23
Raipur	05	100
Baroda	05	100
South Goa	05	100
Kolkata	05	100
Bhubaneswar/Puri	10	200
Ranchi	05	100
Patna	05	100
Assam/Guwahati	10	200
Itanagar/Pasighat/Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh	10	200
Dimapur, Nagaland	10	200
Shillong, Meghalaya	05	100
Aizwal, Mizoram	05	100
Gangtok, Sikkim	05	100
Imphal, Manipur	05	100
Agartala, Tripura	50	1000
TOTAL :	350	7000

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The programme are intended to built the capacity of the artisans in the field of marketing, entrepreneurship development, packaging, manufacturing technology, improved tools and equipments, product development and design, testing, quality, Standardization etc.

Reduction in production of cotton yarn

1218. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the textiles industry faced a glut in the domestic and international markets, which resulted in the drastic reduction of the production of cotton yarn;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that the total loss to the textiles industry during the last few months because of stocks of raw materials and cotton yarn was estimated to be nearly Rs. 11,000 crore;