

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Silk Carpets	58.67	12.76	40.59	8.55	15.84	3.48
4.	Silk waste	5.23	1.14	24.92	5.25	34.52	7.58
	TOTAL	3178.19	691.06	2892.44	609.58	2723.86	597.86

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

Coupling upgraded technology with adequate and timely credit

2456. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is stressing on the need to couple upgraded technology with adequate and timely credit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Government had launched the back ended interest reimbursement/capital subsidy scheme called the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) on 01.04.1999 for a period of 5 years for upgradation of the textiles and Jute Industry. The scheme was continued in modified form w.e.f. 01.04.2007 to 28.06.2010. The scheme has again been launched in restructured form for the period 28.04.2011 to 31.03.2012. Since 1999, TUFS has catalyzed investment of Rs. 207747 crore. Government has revised the Eleventh Five Year Plan allocation in TUFS from Rs. 8000 crores to Rs. 15404 crores on March 31, 2011.

Blacklisting of Indian garment exporters for using child labour

2457. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has been blacklisted for the third consecutive year by United States for engaging child labour in its garment export industry;
- (b) whether the US blacklisting of Indian exporters will adversely affect the prospects of apparel/garment exports to other garment exporting communities, including European Union; and
- (c) if so, whether Government is taking up the matter with the US Government reiterating its steps to eliminate child labour in a phased manner from its industrial/manufacturing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Indian garments have been listed by the United States Department of Labor in the year 2009 and 2010 in their final determination of the Executive Order list No. 13126 and Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPPRA) list, on grounds that the list of products might have been produced or manufactured by forced or indentured child labour.

(b) As per United States Department of Labor the TVPPRA and EO lists are awareness generation list and do not act as Non Tariff Barriers. The impact of these finding has not been witnessed in apparel exports to other exporting countries.

(c) Government has engaged the US authorities through several meetings since 2009, with a view to get Indian garments off the US DoL lists. US DoL has also been furnished with the industry response to the final determination based on field level surveys. Meanwhile, the Apparel Exports Promotion Council (AEPCC) has also commenced with implementing the Common Compliance Code, a Plan Scheme of Ministry of Textiles, for sensitizing the domestic industry on appropriate labour practices.

Increase in export ceiling of cotton

2458. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to increase the cotton export ceiling to 65 lakh bales from 55 lakh bales for the current year crop season;

(b) if so, whether textile mills in the country have appealed to Government to reconsider its decision to allow additional 10 lakh bales of cotton for the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Government has placed cotton exports on Open General Licence (OGL) without any quantity cap with effect from August 2, 2011.

Wide variation in prices of cotton

2459. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it a fact that prices of cotton in the season 2010-11 varied from as low as 28000 per candy to as high as 64000 per candy;

(b) if so, the major reasons for such wide variation; and