intensive sophisticated mill sector at the other. Textile sector provides direct employment to over 35 million people. The exports being made by the sector has a key role in the economy and is one of the mainstays of the national economy. During the period 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 the foreign capital earning by this sector was valued at US$ 21.23 billion US$ 22.42 billion and US$26.83 billion respectively. The share of exports of textile & clothing items (including coir & coir manufacturers and jute) in the total export value of the economy was 11.46%, 12.54% and 10.63% for the period 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. As per latest provisional figure released by DGCI&S, the share of export of textile & clothing items in the total exports value was 9.28% for the period April-July, 2011.

Augmenting the production rate of textiles industry

†1071. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
            SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that country's textiles industry is considered an industry based on labour intensive techniques;

(b)   if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c)   whether any target for augmenting the annual production rate was set during the Eleventh Five Year Plan so as to promote the production in this industry; and

(d)   if so, what was the target and if target was not set, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Textile industry is the 2nd largest labour intensive sector in the country, after Agriculture.

(c) and (d) For the 11th Five Year plan, Government projected an increase in cotton production from 236 lakh bales to 375 lakh bales; cotton yarn production from 4180 million kgs to 6580 million kgs and production of cloth form 60500 million square metres to 94600 million squre metres. To achieve this, an allocation of Rs. 15404 crore was made under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.