

(c) whether there is a dip in demand of cotton apparels due to change in fashion preferences among the Indian middle-class consumers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to popularise use of cotton apparels/garments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Cotton Yarn Advisory Board in its meeting dated 23rd August, 2012 assessed the production/ consumption of cotton yarn, and observed no shortage of cotton yarn in the country. The country has a closing stock of 90 million Kg for 2012-13.

(c) No, Sir. Government has not received any report in dip in demand of cotton apparels.

(d) Does not arise in view of the above.

Steps to increase export of T&C products

2750. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports from India account for 5.13 per cent and 3.13 per cent respectively of world trade of Textiles and Clothing (T&C) products;

(b) if so, whether there is any decrease in the exports during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are being taken to increase the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir. As per International Trade Statistics 2011 data, Textiles and Clothing exports from India accounted for 5.13 per cent and 3.13 % respectively of the world trade during 2010.

(b) No, Sir. There is no decrease in the exports during the last three years.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Government have introduced several provisions in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14, further supplemented in June, 2012, for providing incentives to the T&C sector exports. This includes incentives for exports to focus markets and exports of focus products, interest subvention on pre-shipment credit, duty-free import of trimmings etc. required by the garmenting industry and duty-free import of tools by the handicrafts industry. This apart, financial assistance is being provided to the exporters under the Market Development Assistance Scheme and the Market Access Initiative Scheme, for enhancing market share in existing markets and for exploring new markets.

Scheme for development and export of handicrafts

2751. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing any schemes for development and export of handicrafts in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the achievements made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government has been implementing following six generic schemes for the promotion and development including export of Handicraft sector:

- (i) Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana.
- (ii) Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme.
- (iii) Marketing Support Services Scheme.
- (iv) Research and Development Scheme.
- (v) Human Resource Development Scheme.
- (vi) Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

(c) The achievements made under the above mentioned schemes during the last three years including export of handicrafts are given in Statement.