

projects in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) The scheme for Integrated Textile Parks has been allocated Rs. 1900 crore in the Twelfth Five Year Plan, out of which Rs. 717 crore is available for sanctioning new parks in the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) An advertisement inviting applications for setting of new parks under the Scheme has been published in newspapers in whole country in November, 2013. The proposals are expected in response to this.

Incentive to cotton exporters

767. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to restore the export incentives under the Focus Market Scheme given to cotton and cotton yarn exporters and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that to deal with the issue of current account deficit, Government should encourage textile exports; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Government reviews performance of export sectors at regular intervals and takes remedial measures for providing incentives whenever needed to boost export keeping in view the financial and overall economic implications and presently, there is no proposal to restore incentives of Focus Market Scheme on export of cotton and cotton yarn.

(b) and (c) There is regular review on the performance of textile and clothing exports. Government is taking various steps in consultation with textiles and clothing industry to encourage exports of textiles and clothing products. Recently, to boost the export of textile following steps have been taken:

(i) Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS) has been extended till 31st March, 2014 for export to USA and EU in respect of items falling in Chapter 61 and Chapter 62 (textiles and clothing).

(ii) Hong Kong, Indonesia, South Korea, Pakistan, Asian Group of Countries,

Philippines have been added in the list of countries for export of Woven Cotton Fabrics under Market Linked Focus Product Scheme.

- (iii) 27 EU countries have been added in the list for export of Gloves, Mittens and Mitts of Cotton filled with cotton fibre under MLFPS.
- (iv) Gurgaon has been added as Towns of Export Excellence (TEE) for Textiles.
- (v) About 15 new products related to Textile Sector have been added under Focus Product Scheme on 18.4.2013.
- (vi) Incremental Export Incentive Scheme has been extended for 2013-14 *vis-a-vis* 2012-13 for specified sector including Textile Sector.
- (vii) Two per cent Interest Subvention Scheme for Ready-Made Garments has also been extended for 2013-14 and enhanced to 3%. Items of Chapter 63 also added in Interest Subvention Scheme.

Inadequate incentives to handloom workers and artisans

768. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian textile industry is catering 65 per cent of its production to the domestic market while the remaining 35 per cent is being exported;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that inadequate incentives to the sector led to depriving the workers in handloom sector and artisans of the earnings they deserved;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to encourage cotton cultivation in the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increasing number of NIFTs

769. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to double the number of National Institutes of Fashion Technology (NIFTs) in the country;