

New National Textile Policy

*84. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has constituted an Expert Committee to formulate a new National Textile Policy;
- (b) if so, the need for a new Textile Policy;
- (c) how it would be an improvement over the existing policy;
- (d) the objectives of the new Textile Policy; and
- (e) whether the new policy would be fabric neutral unlike the present one which is in favour of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (DR. KAVURU SAMBA SIVA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted an Expert Committee to review the National Textile Policy 2000 and formulate the National Textile Policy 2013.

(b) and (c) The existing National Textile Policy 2000 was framed about 13 years ago and since then the industry has undergone various changes on the domestic and international fronts. The domestic textile industry has seen large scale modernization and technological up-gradation in the last decade and faces new challenges. In the international trade scenario, while the export quota regime has been removed in 2004, recent trends in the global textile industry offer an enormous opportunity to Indian industry to enhance its share in world trade with a supportive policy framework. Hence, the Government aims to formulate a new improved Textile Policy to address concerns of adequate skilled work force, labour reforms, attracting investments in the Textile Sector, as well as providing a future road map for the textile and clothing industry.

(d) The objectives of the new Textile Policy as stated in the Terms of Reference of the Expert Committee are given in Statement (*See* below).

(e) The Expert Committee is mandated to review all aspects of the existing policy. The Committee has held extensive consultations with all segments of the industry including cotton and man-made fibre segments for making its final recommendations.

Statement*Terms of Reference of the Expert Committee*

- (i) To develop a vision statement of the textile sector for the next decade to treble our market share from the current 4 percent in the next decade;
- (ii) To formulate a stable and fibre neutral raw materials policy to benefit the entire value chain;
- (iii) To address modernization and mechanization needs of the textile industry;
- (iv) To formulate recommendations for development of a skilled work force;
- (v) To formulate recommendations for creating world class infrastructure for Textile Parks and conducive investment environment;
- (vi) To formulate recommendations for developing and modernizing the power loom and handloom sector;
- (vii) To address the proliferation of environmental concerns;
- (viii) To address inter-segmental inconsistencies in policy in respect of fiscal arrangements and formulate recommendations for balanced growth of the sector;
- (ix) To suggest measures to enable the Textile Industry to attain and sustain a pre-eminent global standing in the manufacture and export of textile products;
- (x) To formulate recommendations to address credit requirements of the textile sector;
- (xi) To formulate recommendations for addressing issues relating to marketing strategies;
- (xii) To evolve the Textile Policy 2013 to give a direction to the sector as a whole and to address the needs of the textile industry for 21st century trade operations.

Inclusion of Bhojpuri in Eighth Schedule

*85. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering the demand to include Bhojpuri in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and also to give it classical status;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the time-frame, and if not, the reasons therefor;