

Special law to curb honour killings

*316. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the existing criminal law lacks direct application to illegal acts of honour killings;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to introduce special law which will combat honour killings and protect the hapless young couples and their families who are the victims of this social evil;

(c) whether Government proposes to define honour killing as a specific offence in the Indian Penal Code, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check moral vigilantism by the caste councils or khap panchayats acting as parallel law agencies instrumental in such honour killings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) To curb the incidents of honour killing it was decided to bring forth a Bill namely the “Indian Penal Code and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010”. The Bill, inter alia contained the proposal for amendment in Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954. However, The Law Commission in 242nd Report titled as “Prevention of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliances (In the name of Honour and Tradition) recommended for bringing a standalone legislation namely “The Prohibition of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliance Bill” instead of amending the Indian Penal Code, 1860. As personal laws, including matrimonial laws, are under the administrative control of the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice “The Prohibition of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliance Bill” is now being processed by them. They have circulated the Bill to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for their comments/views as the subject matter of the Bill falls in List III- Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Package to revive textile sector

*317. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating a comprehensive package to overcome the crisis prevailing in the textile sector due to the global economic slowdown, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any action plan is being drawn up by Government to tackle the loss of job opportunities due to this crisis, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has also taken note of a recent study of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) regarding job loss in the textiles sector; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (DR. KAVURU SAMBA SIVA RAO): (a) The textile sector in India has been growing in terms of production of textiles items and export of textiles, despite an adverse global economic situation and there is no crisis situation in textile sector. The details of growth in production of textile items and exports are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir. However, to address the trained manpower needs of the textile and related segments, the Government has introduced Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), as a pilot scheme in the last two years of the Eleventh Plan with an outlay of Rs. 272 crore including Rs. 229 crores as Government of India contribution to train 2.56 lakh persons. The scheme focuses on creating skill that is needed to enhance the competition advantage of India in the manufacturing and textile sector. The Scheme has been scaled up during Twelfth Plan with an allocation of Rs. 1900 crore to train 15 lakh persons.

The scheme proposes to be implemented by providing skill training of five lakh persons each through institutions under the Ministry of Textiles, private sector through a PPP Model and also through State Government in Spinning, Weaving, Knitting, Apparel/Garmenting, Powerlooms, Handicrafts, Handloom, Sericulture, Jute, Technical Textiles etc.

Under the scheme 1,87,604 persons have been trained so far with an outlay of Rs. 226 crore through 17 implementing agencies under the Ministry of Textiles and 12 Private agencies working in PPP Model.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, besides ISDS (Integrated Skill Development Scheme) Government has taken steps to mitigate effect of global slowdown on Textile Sector by diversifying textiles exports to new geographical destinations and new products, simplifying some procedures for reducing transaction costs and assisting exporters to retain their market presence during the crisis period.

Statement*Details of growth in production of textile items and exports***(A) Growth in the textiles production**

Items	Unit	2011-12	2012-13	(April-Dec) (Prov.)	
				2013-14	2012-13
Man made fibre	Mn. Kg	1234	1263	988	949
spurn yarn	Mn. Kg	4372	4868	3942	3599
Man made filament yarn	Mn. Kg	1463	1371	987	1056
Fabrics (including Khadi, wool & silk)	Mn.sq. mtr	60453	62583	48057	47099

(B) Growth in the textiles exports

(Value in Rs. lakh)

Items	Unit	April-October							
		2011-2012		2012-2013		2012-2013		2013-2014	
		Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Fibre	Tonne	2668632	2494819	2794579	2304717	1013801	790299	837914	606802
Fibre waste	Tonne	83335	57144	93803	67360	52068	36841	70852	59239
Yarn	Tonne	1619343	2490213	1983660	3015620	1096624	1644464	1236234	2233581
Fabrics	-	NA	2224797	NA	2311408	NA	1345672	NA	1610456
RMG	-	NA	6573855	NA	7052201	NA	3902836	NA	4927377
Madeups	-	NA	1893043	NA	2197994	NA	1290678	NA	1515917
Other Textiles	-	NA	817593	NA	1049371	NA	589413	NA	726340
TOTAL	-	NA	16551463	NA	17998671	NA	9600203	NA	11679712

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Starred Questions