

- Mega textile clusters with a sum of Rs. 200 crore at various places of India like Varanasi, Bareilly etc.
- Trade Facilitation Centre and a Crafts Museum with an outlay of Rs. 50 crore.
- A Hastkala Academy with an outlay of Rs. 30 crore.

#### **Turf war for negotiating foreign investment pacts**

2151. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Finance are locked in a stiff turf battle over the mandate to negotiate investment pacts with other countries as these two Departments have exchanged letters, each claiming that it is authorized to negotiate foreign investment pacts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to quickly resolve the differences to prevent any uncertainty as it concerns the crucial aspect of investment and foreign investors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Effect of fall in prices of natural rubber**

2152. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the sharp fall in the prices of natural rubber in the country;

(b) if so, the details of average price and cost of production for the last three years;

(c) whether any steps were taken by Government or in the agenda of Government for intervention to protect the farmers and rubber plantation sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Association of South- East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other Free Trade Agreements are hindering the several measures ?