

Cotton production

796. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is expected to emerge as the largest cotton producer in the world in 2015-16;

(b) whether cotton output in all major producing countries in the year barring India, has been anticipated to be lower than the previous season;

(c) whether the global cotton production during 2015-16 had been estimated at 23.68 million tones i.e. 8.6 per cent lower than the previous season's production of 25.90 million tonnes; and

(d) if so, whether Government expects that there would be a huge demand of cotton for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. However in 2015-16, total production of cotton in India is expected to be slightly lower than the previous year.

(c) As per the International Cotton Advisory Committee's Monthly release "Cotton This Month" for November, 2015, the global cotton production in the cotton year 2015-16 is estimated at 23.92 million tons, as against 26.16 million tons in the previous cotton year 2014-15 i.e. less by 8.56%.

(d) The export of cotton is expected to be 68 Lakh bales during the current Cotton Season (2015-16) as against 57.72 lakhs bales exported during the previous Cotton Season 2014-15 as per the estimate of the Cotton Advisory Board.

Potential of Textile Industry in creation of jobs

797. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile sector has a potential to create 45 to 50 per cent of direct jobs in rural India;

(b) if so, whether there is a need for branding Indian cotton against the world labels;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government thereon;

(d) whether textile sector is a drivingforce behind Skill India and Make in India initiatives; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to harness textile sector with regard to creation of direct jobs, particularly in rural India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The textile sector comprises of two broad segments namely viz. (i) unorganised comprising of handloom/handicraft, sericulture, jute, wool etc. and (ii) organized comprising of ginning, spinning, weaving, processing, apparel garment-fashion. A number of programmes and schemes are being implemented by the Government for creation of employment in these segments.

So far as employment in the rural areas is concerned, efforts are being made for consolidating and strengthening the handloom/handicraft, silk, jute, wool activities by providing required assistance to the producers under a number of ongoing schemes. In the organised sectors, the integrated skill development scheme is being implemented for provision of skills as per the requirement of the industry.

As per the assessment made by the Working Group for the 12th five year plan (2012-17), generation of 121.20 million jobs were projected by the year 2017. As per available information the employment generated during 2012-15 is as follows:-

Sector	Employment in cotton/man-made textile mills & powerloom units (in Lakhs)		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Cotton/man made fibre	9.52	9.50	9.54
Powerloom Sector	58.7	59.2	61.9

No separate data is maintained on generation of employment in the unorganized sector and in the rural areas.

In order to generate employment opportunities and to facilitate development of various segments of the Textile Industry Government has taken several policy initiatives and launched schemes namely Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for the Development of Powerloom Sector, National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Reform and Restructuring (RRR) package for Handloom, etc. These schemes have facilitated setting up of new units as well as expansion of the existing units in various segments of the textile industry thereby

generating substantial employment opportunities. These initiatives aim at supporting the textile industry for facing the global competitive environment. At present, there is no proposal for branding of Indian cotton.

Assistance for skill development in the textile sector is provided under the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS). The Textile Ministry is implementing the Scheme in order to address the requirement of trained manpower in the textile industry. Under the Scheme a total of 4,75,372 persons have been trained as on 30th November, 2015. Further, under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) assistance is provided to enable entrepreneurs to set up textile parks. ISDS, SITP, Technology Upgradation and other infrastructure Schemes, support the Make in India initiative in the textile sector.

Awards for innovative design and branding in handloom sector

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to institute awards for innovative design and branding initiatives in handloom sector, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposed award will be given from the year 2016 onwards, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Government of India is considering a proposal for institution of National Awards and National Merit Certificates in the field of design development and marketing of handloom products. These are proposed to be given for year 2015 onwards.

Revival of spinning mills in Odisha

799. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps would be taken for providing necessary infrastructure and technical support to develop Konark Spinning Mill bestowed with state-of-the art facilities which shall be a much needed support to the languishing textile sector in Odisha;

(b) whether there is a proposal to provide support for revival of three spinning mills closed down in the State due to obsolescence; and

(c) whether Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) proposes to open a branch at