

Thrust has been given for promotion of Handlooms and Handicrafts in the North Eastern Region. Under the North Eastern Region Textile Promotion Scheme, an amount of ₹ 286 crore has been spent during the last two years.

This Ministry organised a mega-event “Destination North East-2016” from 12th-14th February, 2016 at Pragati Maidan, ITPO, New Delhi to showcase the inherent economic, social and cultural strength, potential and opportunities in the North East Region. The North East-ASEAN Business Summit was organized during April 7th-9th, 2016 at Imphal, Manipur. A meeting on “Economic Cooperation Dialogue in Eastern South Asia; Transport Corridors and Border Special Development Zones” was jointly organized by UNESCAP, Government of Meghalaya and North Eastern Council at Shillong during, April 25-26, 2016.

Government is implementing various schemes/programmes for promotion, upgradation and development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises throughout the country including NER region. The major Schemes/programmes include Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS), National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Cluster Development Programme, International Cooperation Scheme etc. Efforts have been undertaken to motivate entrepreneurs to invest in sectors like plastics and polymers, tourism and hospitality, information technology, food processing, aromatic and medicinal plants, sericulture, horticulture and floriculture, handlooms and handicrafts and bamboo processing etc. Some entrepreneurs have set up their venture and taken assistance from NEDFi. In addition, North Eastern Council has supported a number of projects posed by State Governments relating to development of work-sheds and marketing of produce.

Setting up of advanced meteorological centres in Uttarakhand

†1189. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to set up two advanced meteorological centres in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the locations where these centres would be set up; and

(c) by when these meteorological centres would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.