

these machines among cotton farmers through awareness meetings and print media for helping them in reducing the cost of cultivation of cotton. The beneficiary farmers were selected by undertaking the baseline surveys by associating officials of Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC), Directorate of Agriculture, State Agricultural Universities, Village Panchayat etc., for identification of the area, village/cluster of villages.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Problems faced by spinning mills in Andhra Pradesh

318. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of problems being faced by spinning (yarn) mills in Andhra Pradesh due to depleted domestic demand, fallen exports particularly to China and increased prices of cotton;

(b) whether Government is also aware that 10 per cent of mills in Andhra Pradesh are already closed down;

(c) how Government is planning to address this issue;

(d) how much amount is still pending to be given to Andhra Pradesh under TUFs and by when dues would be cleared; and

(e) whether Government would restore 3.35 per cent duty drawback which helps to push exports, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) The Government has not received any representation on the problems faced by the spinning (yarn) mills in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) As of now, there are 132 numbers of cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) out of which only 22 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) are reported closed in the last 30 years due to financial problem and market condition.

(c) In order to achieve growth, modernization, value addition, increase in exports and for the overall development of the textile sector in the country, the Government has been implementing various policy initiatives and schemes such as:—

- I. **Special Package for Textile and Apparel sector:** ₹ 6000 crores package was launched in June 2016 to boost employment and export potential in the apparel and made up segments. This package consists of Remission of State Levies for garmenting and made-ups; additional production and employment linked subsidy of 10% under ATUFS for garmenting; assistance for the entire 12% employers' contribution towards EPF; fixed term employment in garmenting, increasing overtime caps; and income tax concessions under section 80JJAA for the garmenting sector.
- II. **Enhancement of rates under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS):** To further boost exports of apparel & made-up sectors, interest rates under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) has been enhanced from 2% to 4% in Nov 2017.
- III. **Power Tex India:** A comprehensive scheme for powerloom sector was launched in April, 2017 with an outlay of ₹ 487 crores for three years. This scheme has components relating to loom upgradation; infrastructure creation and concessional access to credit. The scheme has been designed to attract investment of ₹ 1000 crores and employment to 10000 persons in power-loom sector and will also result in higher returns to power-loom units.
- IV. **Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS):** The amended Scheme was launched in January 2016 with an outlay of ₹ 17822 Crores. The scheme has been designed to mobilize new investment of about ₹ 95 000 cr and employment for 35 lakh persons by the year 2022.
- V. **SAMARTH- The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS):** A new scheme with an outlay of ₹ 1300 crores has been approved recently in December, 2017 for providing employment oriented training to 10 lakh people in various segments in textiles including one lakh in traditional sectors, by March, 2020.
- VI. **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP):** These programmes aim at holistic development of handloom and handicrafts clusters through integrated approach. The strategic interventions under the programme include financial assistance for new upgraded looms and tool kits, design development, training, easy access to working capital through customized Mudra loan for weavers and artisans and direct marketing support to the weavers and artisans through expos, fair, Buyer seller meet and e commerce.

(d) The details of the amount still pending to be given to Andhra Pradesh under TUFs and by when dues would be cleared is given below:-

(₹ in Crore)

State	Scheme	No of UIDs	Total Committed Amount	Released Amount	Pending committed Amount	By when dues would be cleared
Andhra Pradesh	RTUFS	29	170.57	113.11	16.8	Based on Quarter-wise Committed liability applied by unit/bank and the report of NABCONS
	RRTUFS	47	101.41	62.13	35.23	Based on Quarter-wise Committed liability applied by unit/bank and completion of scheme <i>i.e.</i> 31.03.2022
	ATUFS	10	13.26	0	13.26	Out of 10 units, only 7 units have applied for JIT request and remaining 3 units are yet to apply JIT request. The release of subsidy will be after recommendation of JIT based on JIT Verification.
TOTAL		86	285.24	175.24	65.29	

(e) GST council is comprise of Central and State Governments and it has decided that restoring 3.35 per cent duty drawback would not be possible at the moment.

Integrated Skill Development Scheme

319. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trainers' pool proposed to be created by conducting the advance training programme at the cluster level under the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) is implemented and functioning;

(b) the percentage break-up of students enrolled under the said scheme, segment-wise, such as textiles and apparel, handicrafts, handlooms, jute, etc.; and

(c) the progress made so far by the scheme in reaching its target to train fifteen lakh persons?