

Employment opportunity in textile sector

1546. SHRI DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the employment opportunities in textile sector had dwindled to considerable extent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to make the textile sector as potential employment provider;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), which provides information on employment for formal sector, indicates that employment in the organized textiles and wearing apparel sector has been increasing from 24,74,903 in 2013-14 to 26,94,280 in 2016-17.

(c) to (e) Government has been taking multi-pronged efforts for expansion of textile manufacturing, infrastructure development, up-gradation of technology, supporting innovation, enhancing skills and traditional strengths in the textile sector that led to large number of employment generation in the textile sector, both organised and unorganised sectors.

With a view to further boost textile sector in the country and also to create employment in the textiles and apparel sector, Government is implementing several important schemes, some of which are:—

- (i) SAMARTH: Government has approved a new scheme viz. "Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS)" for providing demand driven placement oriented National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant skilling programme for the entire value chain of textile sector (excluding spinning and seaving in the organized sector) targeting 10 lakhs people covering textiles, apparel, handloom, handicrafts, skill and jute segments.
- (ii) Knitting and Knitwear Sector: In order to boost production in knitting and knitwear clusters, Government has launched a separate scheme for

development of Knitting and Knitwear Sector which will provide employment to nearly 24 lakh persons.

- (iii) Government is implementing Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for technology up-gradation of the textile industry with an outlay of ₹ 17,822 crore during 2016-2022. It is expected to attract investment of ₹1 lakh crore and generate 35.62 lakhs employment in the textile sector by 2022.
- (iv) Government has launched a special package of ₹6000 crore in 2016 to boost investment, employment and exports in the garmenting and made-ups sector with the following components viz., (i) full refund is provided under Remission of State Levies (ROSL) to the exporters for the State level taxes; (ii) production linked additional incentive of 10% is provided under the Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS).
- (v) Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP): Government provides 40% subsidy with a ceiling limit of ₹ 40 crore for setting up textiles parks for infrastructure creation and additional job generation.
- (vi) National Handloom Development Programme, Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme, Handloom Weaver Comprehensive Welfare Scheme and Yarn Supply Schemes for basic inputs, looms and accessories, design and development, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products, etc.
- (vii) National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handicraft Cluster Development Schemes aim at holistic development of handicrafts clusters through integrated approach by providing support on design, technology up-gradation infrastructure development, market support etc.
- (viii) PowerTex India: A comprehensive scheme for powerloom sector with components relating to powerloom up-gradation infrastructure creation, concessional access to credit, etc.
- (ix) Silk Samagra - An integrated scheme for development of silk industry with components of research and development, transfer of technology, seed organization and coordination, market development, quality certification and export.

- (x) Jute ICARE for increasing the income of farmers by at least 50% through promotion of certified seeds, better agronomic practices and use of microbial re-using of Jute plant.
- (xi) Integrated Wool Development Programme for growth of wool sector by way of machine sheep shearing, strengthening of wool market and processing and woollen product manufacturing.
- (xii) North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) for promoting textiles industry in the NER by providing infrastructure, capacity building and marketing support to all segments of textile industry.
- (xiii) Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) providing the full employer's contribution of 12% of the Employment Provident Fund (EPF) under the Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY).

“Promotion of Jute Geo Textiles”

1547. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to promote Jute Geo Textiles (JGTs), and the extent to which they are being used currently in non-conventional applications;
- (b) whether some State Governments have taken up projects and initiatives to promote JGTs and if so, details thereof;
- (c) the ways in which Government plans to extend the benefits of JGTs to farmers and MSMEs; and
- (d) the incentive structures for industries that manufacture JGTs and procurement benefits for farmers who grow jute for these purposes?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has approved 15 projects (Manipur - 9, Meghalaya - 6) with incremental cost of ₹4,63,90,700/- for application of Jute Geo Textiles in roads and slope stabilization under the Scheme for Promoting Usage of Geotechnical Textiles in North East Region.

(c) The jute farmers are supported under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation by the Jute Corporation of India(JCI) and Jute ICARE (Improved Cultivation and