

(b) Textile sector exports contribution in India's total exports is 12.2% in 2018-19. As exports of textile sector have increased in last five years, it is expected to grow in future as well.

(c) Share of textile sector export in India's export is reported at 12.9% in 2014-15 and 12.2% in 2018-19.

Development of textiles sector

3776. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of issues that the India's textile industry has to grapple with;

(b) whether demonetisation and GST has affected adversely the unorganised and small players in the textile industry and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has proposed to modernise any old technology that is being used in this sector and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Indian Textile Industry is facing uncompetitiveness in the global market particularly in exports of textile and apparel due to higher input costs including higher average tariffs, etc. as compared to competing nations. To address the issue of competitiveness of the Indian textile and apparel sector in the global market and to boost textiles and apparel exports and employment, Government has taken several measures which *inter alia* include Special Package which is a strong sectoral policy support as it has not only brought about better fiscal incentives in the form of the Rebate of State Levies (RoSL) Scheme and Central levies to enhance exports of apparel and made-ups, but also brought about major labour reforms to boost employment.

(b) Representations were received from the Industry/Traders Associations alleging adverse impact of GST on textile industry particularly man-made textiles with demand for reduction/revision of GST rate(s)/provisions relating to various textile items. Government considered their grievances/demands and reduced GST rate(s) on certain textile and handicraft products including enhancement of custom duty on import of number of textile items to protect domestic industry.

(c) Government has taken various initiatives for technology upgradation, infrastructure creation and skill development to make the Indian textiles industry globally

competitive which *inter alia* include the following:-

- (i) Under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) - one time capital subsidy @ 15% subject to a ceiling of ₹ 30 crore is provided for installing eligible benchmarked machinery in garmenting and technical textiles as well as subsidy @ 10% subject to ceiling of ₹ 20 crore for installing new machinery in weaving, knitting, processing, Jute Silk and handlooms. For the above, budget provision of ₹ 17,822 crore has been approved for seven years from 2015-16 to 2021-22 which will attract an investment of ₹ 1 lakh crore and generate employment of ₹ 35.62 lakh.
- (ii) Scheme for production and Employment linked support for garmenting units (SPELSGU) under ATUFS- apart from 15% capital subsidy under ATUFS, additional incentive of 10% subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 crore is provided under SPELSGU to the garments and made-ups units on the achievement of projected production and employment generation.
- (iii) Further, Government has launched a separate scheme for development of Knitting and Knitwear Sector in January, 2019 with an outlay of ₹47.72 crore for a period upto 31.3.2020 with a view to boost production in knitting and knitwear clusters at Ludhiana, Kolkata, and Tirupur which provide employment to nearly 24 lakh persons.
- (iv) A comprehensive scheme- "PowerTex India"— launched on 1st April, 2017 with an outlay of ₹ 487 crore for three years - for loom upgradation, infrastructure creation and access to concessional credit - a push to the fabric segment.
- (v) Design and Technology Up gradation Scheme and Comprehensive Handicrafts Development Scheme (CHCDS) under which Model toolkits, safety equipment, looms, furnace etc. are being distributed to the master crafts persons to help in the modernisation of new technology in handicrafts sector. 25029 modern tool kits have already been distributed to master crafts persons during last five years;
- (vi) A new scheme 'Silk Samagra' was launched for a period of three years upto 2019-20, with an outlay of ₹2161.68 crore for comprehensive development of the silk sector- Custom duty on import of Silk fabric increased from

10% to 20 % during February, 2018. India entered into international collaboration with Bulgaria, Japan, China and Uzbekistan to develop high yielding varieties of silk breeds.

- (vii) To improve productivity and quality of raw jute, a pilot-project of Jute ICARE has been successfully implemented through carefully designed interventions providing additional income to the extent of ₹ 10,000 per hectare for farmers.
- (viii) As a part of Government's focus on skill development and employment generation in the textile sector, Government is implementing the 'Samarth - Scheme for Capacity Building', to train 10 lakh youth for a period of three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20, at an estimated cost of ₹1300 crore. The scheme aimed at providing demand driven, placement oriented National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant skilling programmes to incentivize and supplement the efforts of the industry in creating jobs in the organised and related sectors and to provide skilling and skill-upgradation in the traditional sector.
- (ix) Apart from the above, Government has been taking various initiatives for promotion of textile manufacturing by building the best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure, upgradation of technology, fostering innovation and enhancing skills in the textile sector. These include Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS), North Eastern Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM) for Jute Industry and Jute Diversified Products Manufacturing Units, innovation and expansion under Technology Mission on Technical Textiles- for Promoting Usage of Agro textiles, Focus Incubation Centre, etc. Furthermore, Government has been encouraging and supporting the traditional handloom and handicraft sectors including silk, wool and jute sectors for enhancing production and employment generation in these segments.

Status of Samarth Yojana

3777. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of youth targeted to be trained during 2017-18 to 2019-20 under the Samarth Yojana which was launched for employment generation and capacity