

Divyang Jan (0.28%). Out of the 11.14 lakh persons trained, 8.43 lakh persons have been employed.

In further continuation, Ministry of Textiles has expanded the skill development programme, called Samarth- Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector, for the entire value chain of the textiles sector (except spinning and weaving in organized sector which are being trained under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana) with a target of 10 lakh persons at a total outlay of ₹1300 crore. The training programme and course curriculum have been rationalized keeping in view the technological and market demand status of the domestic and international economies. Ministry of Textiles has already partnered with 21 Government Agencies from 18 States and Sectoral Organizations covering nearly 4 lakh persons, for entry level training and job creation in both traditional and organized segments of textile value chain.

Further, a training target of approximately 1.5 lakh persons has been allocated to Industry/Industry associations for undertaking training. Special emphasis is also laid on upskilling in apparel and garmenting segment for increasing the competitiveness of the industry in global market.

Standardization of textile products

1737. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no specific standardization of apparel made in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of steps undertaken for standardization of textile products as per global standard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Apparels are fashion driven products and it is not feasible to standardize material and design features of all types of apparels. Only parameters like size designation, seam types, measurements and packaging of apparels have been standardized. Sectional Committee of BIS on hosiery and made ups textiles have formulated standards related to terminology, specifications and packaging relating to all types of hosiery goods and apparels.

(c) BIS is a participating member in the International Committees ISO/TC 38 'Textiles' and ISO/TC 133 'Clothing sizing systems - Size designation, size measurement methods and digital fittings'. There is active participation in the activities of these committees to ensure that India's interests are taken care of in the International Standards. To the extent possible, Indian Standards are harmonized with the relevant International Standards keeping in view, the requirements prevalent in the country.

Textile mills in the country

1738. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to improve and modernise the textile sector to compete with other countries of the world;
- (b) if so, the number of textile mills in the country, State-wise; and
- (c) the planning of Government to improve and modernise the textile mills to be more viable and competitive?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Government of India is implementing various schemes to make the Indian textile industry globally competitive, boost exports and facilitate modernization, thereby to increase productivity and employment. Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) is being implemented for technology upgradation of the textile industry with one time capital subsidy for eligible machinery. Segments which have higher employment and export potential such as Garmenting and Technical Textiles are eligible for capital subsidy at the rate of 15% subject to cap of ₹30 crore. Segments such as weaving for brand new Shuttle-less Looms (including weaving preparatory and knitting), Processing, Jute, Silk and Handlooms get subsidy at the rate of 10% subject to a cap of ₹ 20 crore. A budget provision of ₹17, 822 crore has been approved for seven years from 2015-16 to 2021-22 to meet the committed liabilities of ₹12,671 crore for previous version of TUFS and ₹ 5,151 crore for the cases under ATUFS.

POWERTEX - A comprehensive scheme for development of Powerloom sector has been launched w.e.f. 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with components like *In situ*-upgradation of plain Powerlooms, Group Work Shed Scheme, Yarn Bank Scheme, Common Facility Centre (CFC), Solar Energy Scheme, etc. Further, Schemes like Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT), Scheme for Usage of Agro-textiles in North East Region,