

Export of textile and handicraft items

*415. SHRIC. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that export of textile and handicraft items from Andhra Pradesh have declined during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial steps being taken by Government to boost export of textile and handicraft items from the State of Andhra Pradesh to European and American countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) State-wise export figure are not maintained. However, the value of exports of textiles and handicrafts from country during 2000-01 and 2001 - 02 are given below:

year	Value in i 2000-01	US\$ Million 2001-02	% Increase/decrease of 2001-02 over 2000-01
Textile including handicrafts, coir and jute	12037.6	10715.0	-11.0%
Of which:			
Handicrafts	1249.7	1051.3	-15.4%

Source: DGCI&S Kolkata

The declining trend in the textile exports during the year 2001 -02 is mainly due to general slowdown in the economies of some of our major important trading partners like US which got accentuated due to Sept. 11 attacks. It is also due to increased competition from our neighbouring countries like China, Bangladesh etc.

As per latest available DGCI&S data, the textile exports including handicrafts, coir and jute during the period April-July, 2002 amounted to US\$ 3845.8 million as compared to export of US\$ 3604.3 million during the corresponding period of 2001, recording a growth of 6.7%. These latest trends show that the downtrend in textile exports has been reversed.

Government have been taking several steps from time to time to boost textile and handicraft exports from country including Andhra Pradesh. Some of the Important initiatives are;

- (i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (iii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.
- (iv) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought from 15% to 5%. A programme has also been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms-in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- (v) Foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route has been allowed in the textile sector with a few exceptions.
- (vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.
- (viii) For upgradation Infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme' (TCIDS) has been launched. A provision of Rs. 15 crores has been made in the B.E. 2002-03 for providing assistance under the scheme.

- (ix) With a view to ensure sustainable development of handicrafts sector in the country, a new scheme named 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana' has recently been launched. The scheme seeks to develop selected artisan clusters into professionally managed self-reliant community enterprises working on the principle of effective member participation and mutual cooperation.
- (x) The Textile Export Promotion Councils have been undertaking promotional measures for boosting exports of textiles and handicrafts to various countries including USA and European countries.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, I have asked for information about a particular State and the information that is given is the State-wise exports figures. This is the attitude of the Government towards exports. It is very regrettable thing. Exports occupy very important role in our economy and the Government does not maintain the database. Sir, unless they maintain it, how can they know In which areas the exports are decreasing and in which States incentives are to be provided? However, Sir, my basic question is whether any scientific study has been done with regard to the impact of the September 11 attack in the U.S., which has been stated to be the main reason for the decrease in the handicraft exports and also with regard to increase in the competition of the neighbouring countries.

श्री बासनगौडा आर. पाटिल : सभापति जी, प्रत्येक राज्यवार एक्सपोर्ट में हम स्टेटेस्टिक्स नहीं रखते हैं क्योंकि प्रोडक्शन पूरे देश में होता है। जब दिल्ली में प्रोडक्शन होता है तो उसमें मुंबई पोर्ट से जाने का एक प्रावधान है। पूरे देश के आंकड़े हमारे पास होते हैं इसलिए मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहूंगा कि सितम्बर ...(व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : जल्दी बता दीजिए, आगे मेरे सामने सुब्बाराजी रेड्डी का प्रश्न आ रहा है ...(व्यवधान)... संयोग से वे आज नहीं है।

श्री बासनगौडा आर. पाटिल : 11 सितम्बर के बाद एक्सपोर्ट में कमी आई थी। अभी तो मैं सदन में यह बोलना ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आपने जवाब सदन की मेज पर रख दिया है। दैट इज सफिशिएंट।