

thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

- (viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) has been launched.
- (ix) The Textile Export Promotion Councils have been undertaking promotional measures for boosting exports of textiles to USA.

Abolishing Export Promotion Scheme EPCG

†181. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that textile exporters are requesting the Government to continue the various export promotion schemes;
- (b) if so, what is Government's view and policy in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Ministry of Textiles has requested the Ministry of Finance to abolish Export Promotion Scheme EPCG; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and its effect on export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is of the view that the export promotion schemes work on the basic principle of remission/exemption of duty on inputs used in the export product and are thus necessary to ensure the cost competitiveness of Indian exports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.