

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.