Regarding export of Handicrafts from Odisha

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): There is no export house in Odisha for export of handicraft items. Most of the handicraft items of Odisha are procured by export houses located outside Odisha and exported to foreign countries. Furthermore, handicrafts of Odisha exported from Visakhapatnam and Kolkata ports are not accounted for against the State of Odisha. As a result, export of handicraft items from Odisha is reported very low, even though actual export is very high. The Odisha chapter of FIEO, an organization under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India may be strengthened by opening an earmarked cell to focus on export of handicrafts from Odisha. I urge the Union Government to consider this proposal positively.