

INCREASE ASSAM SHARE OF TEXTILE PRODUCT EXPORTS

404. MD. RAKIBUL HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state :

- (a) the initiatives are being taken to increase Assam's share of textile product exports in the global market, considering its potential to export unique items like Assam silk and handloom fabrics;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen international trade agreements to benefit Assam's textile producers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has prepared marketing and branding to boost global recognition and demand for Assam's textile products and if so, the details thereof?

उत्तर
ANSWER
वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री गिरिराज सिंह)
MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Government of India has taken several key initiatives to increase the share of the Indian textile industry, including Assam's textile sector, in the global market.

In the silk sector, initiatives such as conferring **Geographical Indication (GI)** status to *Muga* silk of Assam and obtaining **OEKO-TEX certification** from Germany for *Eri* silk have been undertaken to promote exports in international markets.

The Government is implementing the **Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL)** scheme for apparel/garments and made-ups, with the objective of enhancing export competitiveness by adopting the principle of zero-rated exports. Further, textile products not covered under the RoSCTL scheme are included under the **Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)** scheme, along with other eligible products.

India has signed **14 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)** & **6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs)** and concluded the F.T.A . with U.K. recently. These FTAs aim to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers, simplify procedures, and address structural issues to make Indian exports more competitive in partner markets.

The Government also provides financial support to various **Export Promotion Councils** (e.g., **ISEPC** for silk and **HEPC** for handlooms) and trade bodies engaged in the promotion of textile and garment exports, for organizing and participating in trade fairs, exhibitions, buyer-seller meets, etc., at national and international levels.

The Ministry has supported Export Promotion Councils/Associations in organizing a **global mega textile event — Bharat TEX 2025**, to showcase the strength of the Indian textile value chain, highlight the latest advancements and innovations in the textile and fashion industry, and position India as the most preferred destination for sourcing and investment in the textile sector.

The **Ministry of Textiles**, through the **Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms)**, promotes handloom products across the country, including Assam, by implementing the following schemes:

1. **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)**
2. **Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)**

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies and weavers for procurement of raw materials, upgraded looms and accessories, solar lighting units, construction of work sheds, skill development, product and design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic and international markets, concessional loans under the Weavers' MUDRA Scheme, social security, etc.

Assistance is also provided for establishing international marketing linkages to suitable apex/primary handloom cooperative societies, corporations, producer companies, handloom awardees, exporters, and other talented weavers producing exclusive exportable handloom products.

Export promotion is supported through participation in international fairs, exhibitions, big-ticket events, Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs), Reverse Buyer-Seller Meets (RBSMs), and other marketing initiatives. Publicity and brand development are undertaken through **India Handloom Brand (IHB)**, **Handloom Mark (HLM)**, and related measures.

The **Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)** is implemented nationwide to ensure the availability of yarn to handloom weavers. Under this scheme, freight charges are reimbursed for all types of yarn, and a 15% price subsidy is provided for cotton hank yarn, domestic silk, wool, linen yarn, and blended yarns made from natural fibres.

Similarly, for the handicrafts sector, the **Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)** implements two major schemes: the **National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP)** and the **Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)** for the holistic development and promotion of handicrafts across the country. Under these schemes, need-based financial assistance is provided for end-to-end support to artisans, covering marketing events, skill development, cluster development, formation of producer companies, direct benefit transfers to artisans, infrastructure and technology support, research and development, digitization, branding, and marketing of handicraft products in both domestic and international markets — benefitting traditional crafts and artisans throughout the country, including those in Assam.
