

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4869
ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006
TEXTILE EXPORT
Mohite Shri Subodh;Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase working hours from 48 to 60 hours per week in the textile sector to check the declining textile export;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the textile exported during each of the last three years and current year;
- (c) whether the proposed increase in working hours is as per International Labour Organisation convention;
- (d) if not, the reason for increasing the same;
- (e) whether the Group of Ministers has submitted its report on export of textile items: and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a) to (d) The Indian textile industry has been representing inter-alia for certain flexibilities in labour laws, including increase in weekly working hours from 48 hrs per week to 60 hours per week. Such proposals can be given effect to only after wider consultations with the concerned stakeholders and after forging a consensus. The textile exports have recorded an impressive growth after the abolition of quota system with effect from 1.1.2005. As per the latest available Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) provisional data, textile exports during the period April-January, 2005-06 have amounted to US\$ 13.8 billion, recording a growth of 24.75% over the exports during the corresponding period of 2004-05. The textile exports during the last three years have been as below:-

Year Textile exports (in US\$ billion)

2002-03	12.41
2003-04	13.50
2004-05	13.04

(e) No, Sir

(f) Does not arise.