

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4053
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
FILLIP TO TEXTILE INDUSTRY THROUGH IT
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the Department of Information Technology is in the process of preparing a proposal aimed at addressing the IT needs of the small and medium players in the textile industry;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said proposal;
- (c) whether the overall textile industry was about 40 \$ billion in the country during 2004 and the DIT intends to further give a fillip to its huge potential market;
- (d) if so, whether the role of textile research associations of various regions would be crucial in promoting research and development in electronics in a region specific manner;
- (e) if so, whether it is likely to be funded by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): No, Sir. However, Department of Information Technology (DIT) has recently received a project proposal entitled Study on the Application of Information Technology in Textile Industry pertaining to SME Sector from the South India Textile Research Association (SITRA), Coimbatore, Tamilnadu requesting financial assistance for the project.

(b): Does not arise.

(c), (d),(e) and (f): According to the report entitled `The Textile Turnaround 2004-05` of the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, the Ministry of Textiles has, inter-alia, set the following target to be achieved in a 5 year period:

Upgradation of the technology of the industry for achieving a growth of the textile economy from the current \$37 billion to \$85 billion by 2010.

The DIT promotes application of Electronics/ Information Technology in various industrial sectors including Textile to achieve benefits like increase in productivity, quality, safety, etc. With these objectives, the Department has been supporting various development/ application projects at the regional Textile Research Associations (TRAs) like the Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA), Ahmedabad Textiles Industries Research Association (ATIRA), the Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) and also at some of the educational/R&D institutions. The Department has continuous interactions with these agencies which results in specific project proposals being submitted to the Department from these organisations from time to time. The Department evaluates and screens these proposals according to an established procedure and financial assistance is provided to those proposals which are finally approved by the Ministry.