GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TEXTILES **RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2078** ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2023

SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING

2078. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established any policy for the promotion of sustainable clothing in the country, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning to provide subsidies for the producers of eco-friendly clothing brands;

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of sustainable clothing in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make people aware of sustainable clothing in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Textiles is taking various measures on sustainability for the textile value chain in India under short term, medium term and long-term plans.

As part of Negotiations on Development Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, an implementation agreement was signed with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on 07th October 2021, followed by a supplementary agreement on 08th December 2022 on Sustainability and Value Addition in Agricultural Supply Chains. The objective of the project is to increase the volume of sustainably produced cotton, strengthening capacity building for processing of sustainable cotton and further strengthening the sustainability of the cotton supply chain.

Further, in consultation with Ministry of Textiles, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in partnership with NIFT offered Management Development Programmes for apparel and textile industry professionals for the academic year 2022-23, with an aim to develop mid & senior level managerial capacity for promoting design and production of sustainable clothing.

In continuation to promoting sustainable design and production, this Ministry identified and showcased 10 women founded/led organizations, at Virasaat Exhibition, New Delhi (06th to 10th March, 2023), that are focused on reducing waste in the value stream by employing different circular strategies like recycle, repair, reuse/ remanufacture, rental and resale. This event was accompanied by 2 workshops and was organized as part of International Women's Day Celebration 2023.

(d): A co-operation agreement was signed between UNEP and Textiles Committee on designing a campaign on "*Mainstreaming Sustainability and Circularity in Textile Sector*". This campaign focused on consumer advocacy for increasing the awareness regarding sustainable clothing.