

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1120**  
ANSWERED ON- 28/07/2023

**DEMAND OF MAN-MADE FIBRES**

1120 SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether demand for man-made fibres in textiles is increasing compared to natural fibre textiles, the details of past trends and projection for future;
- (b) whether synthetic fibre contributes to microplastics pollution which endanger health of living beings, particularly human beings;
- (c) if so, whether Government has embarked on any research study upon any on the ill effects of microplastics;
- (d) whether synthetic fabrics are non-biodegradable, if so, manner in which Government plan to deal with this; and
- (e) whether Government has taken any initiative to consider eco-friendly process and production of synthetic fibre and fabrics, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a):** India has been traditionally a Cotton based textiles whereas the global mill fibre consumption is more of Manmade fibre (MMF). Recognizing the potential for growth and employment in MMF sector, the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles has been formulated with an approved outlay of Rs 10,683 crore over a five year period, to promote production of MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and Products of Technical Textiles in the country. Additionally, Ministry is implementing National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) with an approved outlay of Rs.1,480 crore to support Technical Textiles which is mainly MMF based. Estimated production of manmade fibre & raw cotton during the last four years is given below:

Item	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23(P)
MMF (Viscose, Acrylic, Polyester, Polypropylene) (Mn. kg)	1,898.48	1,639.98	2,160.75	2,152.12
Raw Cotton (cotton year wise) (Oct. to Sept.) (Mn. kg)	6,205	5,992.16	5,289.89	5,838.99

P = Provisional; Source: Based on textile entities registered with office of Textile Commissioner to submit periodical statistical returns.

**(b) to (e):** Scientific reports on microplastics, as yet, have not been able to establish a causal relationship with health effects. The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, provide the statutory framework for plastic waste management in the country. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has already notified the Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging on 16th February 2022. The Guidelines stipulate mandatory targets on EPR, recycling of plastic packaging waste, reuse of rigid plastic packaging and use of recycled plastic content. The guidelines provide for moving towards sustainable plastic packaging and reducing the plastic foot print. With regards to waste generated from other plastic commodities, local authorities are mandated to undertake plastic waste management as per Plastic Waste Management Rules, as amended.

Further, in order to promote Man-Made Fibre (MMF) value chain in the country, Ministry has recently set up a "Textile Advisory Group on Man-made Fibre (MMF)" comprising stakeholders of the entire value chain to deliberate and make recommendations on the issues and concerns of the sector and help its growth. Government is constantly engaging with the industry (both manufacturers and users) and taking appropriate action on need basis.

\*\*\*\*\*