

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-*240
ANSWERED ON- 21/03/2025

CHALLENGES FACED BY TEXTILE INDUSTRY

*240. SMT. SUNETRA AJIT PAWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons employed in India's textile and apparel sector;
- (b) whether several challenges like emissions, energy use, water consumption and low levels of recycling are being faced by the Indian textile industry;
- (c) if so, the response of Government thereto and the steps taken to address these challenges;
- (d) whether India's textile sector can move towards a sustainable future by combining tradition with innovation and technology; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *240 for answer on 21.03.2025 by Smt. Sunetra Ajit Pawar regarding “Challenges faced by textile industry”.

(a): The textile industry is one of the largest sources of employment generation in the country directly employing more than 45 million persons.

(b) & (c): In order to facilitate the textile industry to meet the required environmental standards and to support new Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP)/ upgradation of CETPs in existing processing clusters as well as new processing parks specially in the Coastal Zones, the Ministry is implementing Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS). The primary objective of the IPDS is to facilitate the Indian textile industry to become globally competitive using environmentally friendly processing standards and technology.

Apart from this Government through Perform, Achieve & Trade (PAT) Scheme, Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, Amended Technology Upgradation Scheme (ATUFS) etc. is supporting resource efficiency and recycling. Government has also initiated a Study on Mapping of Textile Waste value chain.

(d) & (e): Ministry of Textiles is taking various initiatives to promote sustainability and circularity in the textile sector. Details of some recent steps taken in this regard are as follows:

- i. For promotion of upcycling, a tripartite MoU was signed between Textiles Committee, GeM and Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) to promote and mainstream the public procurement of upcycled products.
- ii. For promotion of sustainability in textile value chain, various steps such as Circle Back campaign aimed at raising awareness among students about textile recycling, organization of exhibitions such as Virasaat in March 2023 and Vastra Katha at Bharat Tex 2024 & 2025 have been taken.
- iii. An ESG (Environment, Social & Governance) Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Textiles provides a platform to stakeholders of the textile and apparel industry in ascertaining the current status and issues in transitioning the textile industry to a sustainable and resource-efficient production system.
