

**WOMEN EMPLOYEES IN APPAREL SECTOR**

4546. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Apparel sector employs largest number of women in India as compared to other industrial sectors, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India's share in export of Apparel garments has been decreasing in last five years and if so, steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to incentivise the Apparel sector in India so as to boost investment, productivity and employment; and
- (d) whether the Government has identified any law/policy that is impeding the growth of apparel sector in India and if so, whether the Government plans to revoke the same?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी)

MINISTER OF TEXTILES  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Apparel sector employs around 1.1 crore persons out of which it is estimated that 70% are women.

(b): As per the data of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, export of apparel has increased by 2% from Rs 102,943 crore in 2014-15 to Rs 112,701 crore in 2018-19.

(c): To increase competitiveness of textile industry, Government announced a Special Package for garments and made-ups sectors. The package offers Rebate of State Levies (RoSL), labour law reforms, additional incentives under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) and relaxation of Section 80JJAA of Income Tax Act. The RoSL scheme has been replaced by the new RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme w.e.f 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The rates under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) have been enhanced from 2% to 4% for garment. Assistance is also provided to exporters under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. Government has enhanced interest equalization rate for pre and post shipment credit for exports done by MSMEs of textile sector from 3% to 5% w.e.f. 02.11.2018. Benefits of Interest Equalization Scheme has been extended to merchant exporters from 02.01.2019 which was earlier limited to only manufacturer exporters.

(d): Looking at the seasonal nature of the industry, fixed term employment was introduced by the Government under the Special Package. A fixed term workman is now considered at par with permanent workman in terms of working hours, wages, allowances and other statutory dues. Further, the provision of 240 days under Section 80JJAA of Income Tax Act was also relaxed to 150 days for garment industry by the Government under the Special Package.