

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3360  
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010  
EXPORT OF HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS  
Semmalai Shri S.

**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has drawn up any plan to scout for new market abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other measures taken by the Government to step up export of handicraft?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As intimated by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has drawn a plan to participate in Exhibitions in CIS, Africa, ASEAN, LAC Regions besides USA and Europe to scout for new market for exports of handicrafts. Besides, this Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts had organized Brand Image Programme in Argentina, Colombia, Oman, etc. As a follow-up events, Folk Craft Festivals were organized in Argentina and Colombia.

(c): The other measures being taken to step up export of handicrafts include: participation in Fairs /Exhibitions abroad; organizing Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair twice a year, organizing Thematic exhibition, Organizing programmes for packaging and export procedure, organization of buyer-sellers meet and brand image promotion of Indian Handicrafts abroad etc. In the new Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 announced on 27.8.2009 under Focus Product Scheme (FPS), all handicrafts products have been categorised as Special Focus Product and are, accordingly, entitled to a benefit of duty credit scrip @ 5% of FOB value of exports, as against the normal rate of 2% for Focus Products.