1. What are the ATUFS benchmarked machineries?

TUFS benefit is available for TUFS benchmarked machinery covering the following activities:- a) Cotton ginning and pressing. b) Silk reeling and twisting. c) Wool scouring, combing and carpet industry. d) Synthetic filament yarn texturising, crimping and twisting. e) Spinning. f) Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) and Viscose Filament Yarn (VFY). g) Weaving, knitting and fabric embroidery. h) Technical textiles including non-wovens. i) Garment/design studio/made-up manufacturing. j) Processing of fibres, yarns, fabrics, garments and made-ups. k) Production activities of Jute Industry.

2. What are the subsidies under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)?

Capital Investment Subsidy is available under ATUFS under this scheme for eligible segments @10%/15% with an upper limit on investment amount. For more information, click here.

3. What is certificate of exemption and endorsement of GSP in Export Promotion & Quality Assurance?

An exemption certificate is issued to enable quota/duty free entry of the eligible items of Handloom origin at the importing end. GSP certificates (Form A) is issued for the eligible items for the following tariff preference giving (donor) countries: Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America (USA), Republic of Belarus, Russian Federation, and European Union. The European Union includes 28 countries Viz. Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Holland), Republic of Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom (UK). Note: 1) For Australia, the main requirement is exporter’s declaration on the normal commercial invoice. Form A accompanied by the normal commercial invoice is an acceptable alternative, but official certification is not required. 2) In case of Canada and New Zealand, Official Certification is not required. 3) The United States does not require GSP Form A. A declaration setting forth all pertinent detailed information concerning
the production or manufacture of the merchandise is considered sufficient only if requested by the district collector of the Customs.

4. What are the government sponsored schemes in textile industry?

The Ministry of Textiles through the Textile Committee provides information on the various schemes available for the textile sector. The schemes are aimed at providing wholistic benefits and growth opportunities to this sector. These schemes are: Power-loom sector. Technology upgradation. Cluster development programme/ integrated textile parks. Integrated Skill Development Scheme. Technical Textiles For more information, click here.

5. What is Export Promotion & Quality Assurance under Ministry of Textile?

The Export Promotion & Quality Assurance Division carries out functions under various Sections of The Textiles Committee Act, such as conducting technical studies in the textile industry, Promotion of textile exports, Establishing, adopting and recognizing standard specifications for textiles and packing materials, Specifying the type of quality control or inspection needs to be applied to textiles, providing training on the techniques of quality control to be applied to textiles etc. For more information, click here.

6. What is Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)?

ATUFS is set up to incentivise production and employment in the garmenting sector. The scheme would facilitate augmenting of investment, productivity, quality, employment, exports along with import substitution in the country. For more information, click here.

7. What is India Handloom Brand?

The scheme of “India Handloom” brand has been launched to endorse the quality of the products in terms of raw material, processing, embellishments, weaving design and other parameters besides social and environmental compliances for earning the trust of the customers. The ‘India Handloom’ Brand is aimed at generating a special market space and increased earnings to the weavers. Thus the concept of “India Handloom” is to brand the handloom products, which are exclusively catering to the „quality?, need of the socio-environmentally conscious consumer. For more information click here.
8. Is there a list of importers and exporters of technical textiles available?

There are 369 technical textiles importers and 680 technical textiles exporters in India as per the latest available figures. The list of exporters and importers along with contact details, export segment & product exported is available in the website link.

9. What does the MSS Scheme stands for?

MSS stands for Marketing Support & Services scheme. The Scheme has been introduced to promote and provide financial assistance to artisans to participate in domestic and international craft exhibitions/seminars in metropolitan cities/state capitals / places of tourist or commercial interest/other places. For more information, click here.

10. What is the R&D Scheme introduced by the Government?

Research and Development scheme was introduced to conduct surveys and studies of important crafts and make in-depth analysis of specific aspects and problems of Handicrafts in order to generate useful inputs to aid policy Planning, fine tune the ongoing initiatives and to have independent evaluation of the schemes implemented by this office. Following activities will be under taken during the 12th Plan: i) Survey & Studies on different topics. ii) Financial assistance for preparation of legal, para legal, standards, audits and other documentation leading to labeling/certification. iii) Financial assistance to organizations for evolving, developing a mechanism for protecting crafts including languishing crafts, design, heritage, historical knowledge base, research and implementation of the same enabling the sector/segment to face challenges. iv) Conducting Census of Handicraft artisans of the country. v) Registration of Crafts under Geographical Indication Act & necessary follow up on implementation. vi) Assisting handicrafts exporters in adoption of global standards and for bar coding including handicrafts mark for generic products. vii) Financial assistance for taking up problems/issues relating to brand building and promotion of Indian handicrafts. viii) Conducting of Workshops/Seminars on issues of specific nature relating to handicrafts sector.

11. What is ISO 9000 and for whom it is applicable?

International Organization for Standardization evolved ISO 9000 series of standards in 1987. These are quality assurance system standards. First revision came in July 1994 and second revision on 15 December 2000. Henceforth, there will be only one standard i.e. ISO-9001:2000. These standards are customer oriented and focus on customer satisfaction by fulfilling the customers’ requirements. These
are applicable to any manufacturing or servicing organization. Hence, these are the product neutral standards. These can be adopted by any organization be it large, medium, small, limited company, private limited company, partnership firms and proprietorship firms.

12. **What is Market Research Department in Textile Committee?**

Market Research Department is one of the functional departments of the Textiles Committee dealing with the activities of Textile Economic Research. As mandated in the Textiles Committee Act, the Department is carrying out textile economic research.

13. **What are the new activities initiated by the department?**

Recently, the Market Research Department has initiated lot of activities to strengthen the exports of our country through Market Intelligence in Textiles (MIT). A comprehensive database on different segments of the textile industry will be carried out to provide handholding support to the exporting fraternity of the country as well as the policy makers. This Database will provide macro level information on all sectors of the T&C on Production, Domestic Demand, Export & Import, Price & its Mechanism, Competitiveness & Competitors, Cost benchmarking, Government Policy Mechanism, Tax Structure, RTAs/PTAs, Infrastructure and Other related issues to the industry stakeholders and policy makers. Besides this, the department is spearheading the facilitation of protection of traditional and unique textile products under GI Act.

14. **What are the main objectives of the Market Intelligence in Textiles?**

The main objectives of MIT are: 1) Provide Real-time Database for the Policy, Industry and Trade (Country level, product level). 2) Suggest remedial measures/ information on change in business environment in domestic segment. 3) Augmenting Market Information for export competitiveness and policy.

15. **Is ISO 9000 standards mandatory to the industry?**

No, however, in the coming days, non-existence of certified quality systems would probably be treated as a trade barrier not because of any Government regulations but through the customers, who are having the wide choice in selecting their suppliers for getting consistent quality. It also demonstrates the intent for continuous improvement in the overall business function.
16. What number of COEs have been set up so far under materials and pieces of clothing part?

The Government is in the process of setting up of four centres of excellence. These are: Geotech: Set up by the Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA) & Ahmedabad Textile Industry’s Research Association (ATIRA), with BTRA as lead partner Agrotech: Synthetic & Art Silk Mills Research Association (SASMIRA) & Man-made Textile Research Association (MANTRA) & Navsari Agriculture University with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi as knowledge partner with SASMIRA as lead partner. Protech: Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) & Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi with NITRA as lead partner. Meditech: South India Textile Research Association (SITRA) and AC College of Technology with SITRA as lead partner. For more information, click here.

17. What are the Centers Of Excellence (COEs)?

To provide infrastructure support at one place for thrust areas of the technical textiles, the Government is in the process of setting up of four centres of excellence. For more information, click here.

18. What are the segments eligible for capital subsidy under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUF)?

Capital investment subsidy will be available for entities in following segment: Weaving, weaving preparatory and knitting Processing of fibres, yarns, fabrics, garments and make up Technical textiles Garments/ made-up manufacturing Handloom sector Silk sector Jute Sector For more information, click here.

19. How can one apply for India Handloom Brand?

One can apply for the registration by submitting: a duly filled application form in duplicate in the prescribed format; applicable registration fees; and sample of your product(s) of 0.25 meter length in full width of the fabric. For more information, click here.