

Govt sets textiles export target of \$33b for '12-13

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The Government has set an export target of \$33 billion for the textiles sector next year despite the global economic slowdown, which it termed a "serious concern", and said steps have been taken to address the "challenge".

The union textiles minister, Anand Sharma, told the Lok Sabha that the textiles sector has witnessed a slowdown due to various factors, including the poor global economic situation.

Maintaining that it was a matter of "serious concern" in a reply to supplementaries, he said steps have been initiated to address the "challenges".

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Growth plans

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In reply to a supplementary from Basudeb Acharya (CPM), the minister said so far, the Government has not received any complaint for dumping of Chinese raw silk in the Indian market and maintained that natural calamities in China have reduced the production of silk in that country.

Sharma, however, said mechanisms like safeguard duty help the Government to check dumping of commodities in Indian markets.

He maintained that Chinese silk was helping weavers in India as the production of raw silk has come down in the country.

The minister said the establishment of 21 new integrated textile parks was approved in October this year at a cost of Rs 2,100 crore to create world-class infrastructure for the textiles industry.