

SPEECH FOR SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI, HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES FOR INAUGURATION OF NTC MILLS AT COIMBATORE ON 22.8.2009.

8/2009(NTC, Coimbatore)

Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Sri Dayanidhi Maran; Sri K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran Hon'ble Minister for Handloom & Textiles, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Sri Palanisamy, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Sri Natarajan, Member of Parliament; Sri Venkatachalam, Mayor, Coimbatore Municipal Corporation; Sri R. Chinnaswamy, Member of Legislative Assembly; Smt. Rita Menon, Secretary (Textiles), Government of India; Sri K. Ramachandran Pillai, CMD, National Textile Corporation Ltd., Dr. P. Uma Nath, District Collector, Members from Textile industry, other dignitaries, Government officials, Ladies & Gentlemen and media. A very good morning to all of you.

It is indeed a great privilege to be present here on the occasion of inauguration of the four modernized textile mills of NTC in the famous textile city of Coimbatore.

The modernization of Cambodia Mill, Coimbatore Murugan Mill, Pankaja Mill and Sri Rangavilas Mill are now ready to start with full production activities in full swing with the latest machinery and equipment after modernization. It is a matter of great pride that NTC has modernized these 4 mills in a very short time involving an expenditure of Rs.64.35 crore on this account.

We are all conscious of the impact of economic recession which has seriously affected the textile industry and our export earnings and employment opportunities to our people. I am confident that NTC will make important contribution for employment generation in this area apart from production and marketing of textile items to a great extent after the modernization efforts. The power shortage in Tamil Nadu also has affected the NTC mills in Coimbatore. I am sure that the situation will improve with the active support and cooperation of the State Government. Our Government has initiated a number of steps for improvement of the textile sector. The major centres of textile production situated in Tirupur, Coimbatore, Erode etc. will be benefited by the various initiatives taken by the Ministry of Textiles.

Our UPA Government under the able guidance of Smt. Sonia Gandhiji and under the leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singhji has implemented many flagship programmes during our earlier period. During this period also our Government is planning to introduce few more new flagship programmes that include programmes in skill developments and training. In this direction our Ministry is also giving thrust to design development and other skill development through our institutes and by organising special seminars and workshops. Our special focus is on creating awareness about the technical textiles applications, their productions and thereby increase in the growth of the textile business in this recession period both in domestic and international market.

We are also organising series of Seminars to initiate awareness on Technical Textiles. Our Government is working in a mission mode and as part of our 100 day

programme, we are inaugurating these mills. We have also taken number of steps including training of officers in management, for performance enhancement. Couple of days before we have also inaugurated our enhanced website of our Ministry which has interlinks with other organizations, as a facilitation measure for the industry and to provide transparency.

After modernization of NTC mills in Coimbatore, the mills will start functioning on full capacity to produce value added yarn and cloth to cater to the domestic as well as foreign market. It is a matter of great satisfaction that more than 5000 employees are working in Southern Region of NTC mills including Tamil Nadu.

With this few words I wish to congratulate NTC for its continued efforts for improving the performance of the company and particularly the steps taken to revise the mills in Coimbatore. I am sure these mills will function in full capacity, with maximum efficiency, sustain profitably and compete in the open market and provide direct and indirect employment to many. I convey my best wishes to these mills.

Thank you!
Jai Hind!