

- viii) Credit targets of Public Sector Banks revised upward to reflect the needs of the economy;
- ix) State Level Bankers Committee to hold meetings for resolution of Credit issues of MSMEs;
- x) Guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme doubled to Rs. 1 crore with cover of 50%;
- xi) DEPB rates restored to pre November, 2008 levels and extended till 31.12.2009;
- xii) Duty Drawback on knitted fabrics enhanced retrospectively from 1.9.2008.

Plight of handloom weavers due to global meltdown

567. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the plight of the handloom weavers due to the global meltdown; and

(b) the action contemplated by Government to save the handloom sector from the present crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI):

(a) The Government has not received any report from any State Government about the plight of handloom weavers due to the global meltdown.

(b) Does not arise.

Conventional and Rapier powerlooms

568. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Conventional power looms and Rapier powerlooms at present working in the country. State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to make available adequate cotton and power to this sector for unhindered production; and

(c) the steps taken in view of the global recession to lift this sector from the present slump?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI):

(a) No. of powerlooms including Rapier looms at present working in country. State/Union Territory-wise as on 31.12.2008 is enclosed at Statement-I (See below) Data is not separately for Rapier Looms, However, State-wise number of shuttleless looms - which includes Rapier looms also - installed since inception of 20% Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) scheme in November 2003 as on 30.6.2009 is as under:

Name of the State	No. of shuttleless looms
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	163
Gujarat	3807
Haryana	295

1	2
Jharkhand	8
Karnataka	119
Madhya Pradesh	67
Maharashtra	5322
Punjab	346
Rajasthan	11
Tamil Nadu	1473
Uttar Pradesh	144
TOTAL :	11775

(b) A Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) was launched on 19th February, 2000 to make available adequate cotton, to improve the production, productivity and quality of cotton in the country by bringing the entire gamut of research and development, marketing and processing of cotton under one umbrella through a mission approach. Resultantly, adequate cotton is available to meet domestic demand as assessed by the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) attached to the Office of the Textile Commissioner. With regard to Power, it is mentioned that the subject matter comes under the purview of the concerned State Governments.

(c) To lift the Textile sector from the present slump, Government has announced two stimulus packages on 7.12.2008 and 2.1.2009. These measures, *inter-alia*, provide the following:-

- Additional allocation of Rs. 1400 crore to clear the entire backlog of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS).
- All items of handicrafts to be included under 'Vishesh Krishi Gram Udyog Yojana'.
- Across the board cut of 4⁰% in the ad-*valorem* Cenvat rate till 31.3.2009.
- Interest subvention of 2⁰% upto 31.03.2009 subject to a minimum of 7⁰% per annum on pre and post shipment of export credit (since extended up to 31.03.2010).
- Provision of additional funds for full refund of Terminal Excise Duty / Central Sales Tax.
- Enhanced back-up guarantee to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to cover for exports to difficult markets / products.
- Refund of Service Tax on foreign agent commissions of upto 10⁰% of Free-on-Board (FOB) value of exports as well as refund of service tax on output service while availing benefits under Duty Drawback Scheme.
- Credit targets of Public Sector Banks revised upward to reflect the needs of the economy.
- State Level Bankers Committee would hold meetings for resolution of Credit issues of Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

- Guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme doubled to Rs. 1 crore with cover of 50%.
- Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) rates have been restored to pre-November 2008 levels and extended till 31.12.2009.
- Duty Drawback on knitted fabrics has been enhanced retrospectively from 01.09.2008.

Statement

*State/Union Territory - wise position of Powerlooms
including Rapier Looms as on 31.12.2008*

Sl. No	Name of the State/Union Territory	No. of looms
I. States		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45076
2.	Assam	2726
3.	Bihar	2894
4.	Goa	122
5.	Gujarat	323307
6.	Haryana	9933
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1461
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	65
9.	Karnataka	81890
10.	Kerala	2792
11.	Madhya Pradesh	104823
12.	Maharashtra	1062174
13.	Orissa	3321
14.	Punjab	23620
15.	Rajasthan	34159
16.	Tamil Nadu	385383
17.	Uttar Pradesh	65993
18.	West Bengal	5687
19.	Delhi	1102
20.	Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura	0
II. Union Territories		
21.	Chandigarh	42
22.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	962
23.	Pondicherry	830
24.	Andaman & Nicobar, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep	0
TOTAL :		2158362