

implemented for improving the incomes and giving more stable employment to the weavers.

Production and export of handloom products

1188. SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production in terms of value of handloom products in the country during the last three years;

(b) what is the value of the handloom products exported during the above period and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reserve some quota of handloom products for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) Production data for the handloom sector are based on figures of civil deliveries of hank yarn by the textile mills. The value of production is derived from the annual average of prices of handloom cloth, as furnished by the Textiles Committee. The value of production of handloom goods during the last three years is accordingly estimated in round figures as under:—

Year	Value (in Rs. crores)
1974	940.00
1975	1,000.00
1976	1,020.00

(b) Exports of handloom goods during the last three years have been as under:—

Year	Value (in Rs. crores)
1974	121.32
1975	150.39
1976	236.68

(c) No, Sir.

Financial assistance to States for the handloom sector

1189. SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central assistance is provided to the State Governments for promotion of the handloom sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of financial assistance given to each State during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (1) Central Government is assisting State Governments for promotion of handloom sector through the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes:—

(1) Intensive Handloom Development Projects.

(2) Handloom Export Production Projects.

(3) Handloom Janata Cloth Scheme.

(4) Share Capital Assistance for Primary Handloom Cooperative Societies.

(5) Share Capital Assistance for Apex Body of Handloom Weavers.

(6) Assistance for creation of pre-loom and post-loom processing facilities.

(7) Share Capital Assistance to State Handloom Corporations.

(8) Grant of 20 per cent special rebate on Handloom Cloth Sales.

(II) Central Government is also assisting State Governments for their State Plan Schemes in the Handloom Sector by providing financial assistance in the shape of block loans and grants for State Plan Schemes.

(c) Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Handloom Industry have been stated from 1976-77. A statement showing financial assistance given in 1976-77 and 1977-78 for Centrally Sponsored Handloom Development Schemes is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix CIII Annexure No. 61].

Buffer stock of cotton

1190. SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to build up a buffer stock of cotton; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration.

Jute supply to mills by J.C.I.

1191. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 202 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th July, 1977 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of jute mills and concerns have not yet made payment of their dues to the Jute Corporation of India in respect of the jute supplied to them;

(b) if so, what is the amount of arrears outstanding against each jute mill and concern as on the 30th November, 1977;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of mills referred to in part (a) above have also failed to pay provident fund and compulsory deposits of the workers;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; mill-wise;

(e) whether in spite of the failure of these mills to clear the outstanding dues to the JCI and workers, the Jute Corporation of India has supplied raw jute to these mills and concerns;

(f) if so, what are the details thereof;

(g) what other cash or other subsidies Government have given to these jute mills during the years 1975-1976 and 1977; and

(h) whether Government have taken any action against any mill for the above lapses and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) Amount due to Jute Corpor-