

#### **Extension of TUFs in Orissa**

1703. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Orissa has submitted a proposal for extension of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFs) to Orissa; and
- (b) if so, the action taken on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Miserable condition of weavers**

1704. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that weavers who mostly belong to minority community in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar are in miserable condition and are on the verge of committing suicide;
- (b) whether Government has constituted a commission to conduct survey and enquire into their plight;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details and number of weavers who are living below poverty line in the country and what steps Government has taken to redress their grievances till date, during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar have reported that there are no cases of weavers on the verge of committing suicide.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) As per provisional figures of Third Census of Handloom weavers (2009-10), 10.1 lakh handloom household units have BPL Cards, 9.5 lakh have APL Cards and 5.3 lakh household have no cards. In order to alleviate the weavers from the problems and to improve their working conditions, the Government of India has been implementing the following schemes all over the country including the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar in the Eleventh Plan period:—

- (i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme.
- (ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme.
- (iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
- (iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme.