

(ii) The average prices of cotton yarn (hank, cone and hosiery) are as under :—

*Average price of cotton yarn (Hank, Cone and Hosiery)*

		(Rs./Kg.)		
Item	Count	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (upto Jan.-11)
Hank	30s	122	133	183
	40s	132	146	210
Cone	30s	119	128	167
	40s	130	146	190
Hosiery	30s	116	131	183
	40s	128	142	198

(c) No, Sir. The production of raw cotton has increased from 290 lakh bales in season 2008-09 to 295 lakh bales in 2009-10 and is estimated to grow to 329 lakh bales in 2010-11. The production of cotton yarn has shown an increase of 12.6% in 2010-11 (April to December) as compared to 2009-10 (April-December).

**Estimates regarding production of cotton**

†436. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different estimates have been given by different sources regarding the production of cotton during the current year;

(b) if so, the sources which have given maximum and minimum estimates regarding production of cotton in the country; and

(c) in view of different estimates given by different sources, which estimates have finally been accepted by Government considering it realistic and the basis of accepting it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the meeting of the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) held on 6.1.2011 for cotton season 2010-11 (October to September), the maximum estimates were placed by the Cotton Association of India (CAI) for 347.50 lakh bales and the minimum

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

estimates were placed by Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) for 309.00 lakh bales for production of lint cotton in the country.

(c) The Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) estimates the cotton crop periodically based on stakeholder inputs and after taking into account various factors like agro-climatic conditions, pest and disease infestations, cotton arrivals in the Mandi and cotton pressing. The CAB in its 6.1.2011 meeting for the cotton season 2010-11 has arrived at a production estimate of 329 lakh bales.

#### **Setting up of mega handloom clusters**

437. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that four mega handloom clusters have been set up in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that not even a single handloom cluster has been set up in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of criteria adopted in setting up of mega handloom clusters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. So far, four mega handloom clusters at Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Sivasagar (Assam), Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu) and Murshidabad (West Bengal) have been taken up.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Four mega handloom clusters as given above have been taken up as these were announced in the Budget for 2008-09 and 2009-10. Each mega handloom cluster has atleast 25,000 handlooms and will be developed in a time period of 5 years with an upper Central Government share of Rs.70.00 crore. Two handloom clusters at Chirala and Madhvaram in Andhra Pradesh, each covering about 5000 handlooms have been taken up in 2006-07 for their integrated and holistic development and are under implementation. In addition, 52 handloom clusters, each covering 300-500 handlooms have been taken up in the State of Andhra Pradesh under the Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme during the period 2007-08 to 2010-11 (as on date). Further, 262 Group Approach Projects have been taken up in the State of Andhra Pradesh from 2008-09 to 2010-11 (as on date).

#### **Integrated Handloom Development Scheme**

438. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to increase the assistance of Rs. 25000/- to