

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir, the Government is aware that Powerloom Sector is in competition with handloom sector. However, to prevent sale of Powerloom products as handloom products, the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 is implemented by the Ministry.

(b) The Enforcement Officers of the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Regional Enforcement Officers and Weavers Service Centres regularly and frequently inspect the stalls at various National/State Level Expos to ensure sale of genuine handloom products in handloom exhibitions from time to time. The Handloom weavers are also encouraged to use Handloom Mark on genuine Handlooms Products.

(c) Yes Sir, the Government of India is strictly implementing the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. Three Regional Offices of the Development Commissioner Handlooms at Chennai, Delhi and Ahmedabad and all 25 Weavers Service Centres conduct inspections of powerlooms units to implement the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 all over India. In addition to this, Central Assistance is given to 9 State Governments to set up an Enforcement Machinery and to ensure there is no violation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. The nine States in which Enforcement Machinery has been set up are Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. Presently the Government of India is funding the State Enforcement Machinery set up by the State Governments in 9 States.

(d) The details of powerlooms inspected to prevent violation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985, financial assistance released during the last three years are as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	Powerlooms inspections	Financial Assistance released (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	2008-09	237111	350
2.	2009-10	251896	350
3.	2010-11	261071	350
4.	2011 (Upto July, 11)	59326	0.49

Revival package for cooperatives in handloom sector in Orissa

2454. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal on Orissa regarding a revival financial package for cooperatives in the handloom sector; and

(b) if so, the action taken on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, in his Budget Speech (2011-12), the Union Finance Minister has decided to provide Rs.3,000 crore of financial package to NABARD for covering nearly 15000 Cooperative Societies and 3 lakh weavers. The proposal, *inter-alia*, includes writing off over dues loans and interest of eligible weaver's Cooperative Societies and weavers concerned across the country including the State of Orissa.

New centres for sericulture production

†2455. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to establish new centres for sericulture production;

(b) the State-wise number of sericulture production centres in the country at present;

(c) whether silk cloths are more in demand in foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Government of India, through Central Silk Board (CSB), is implementing a special sericulture project under Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. 'Catalytic Development Programme' (CDP) in collaboration with state sericulture departments of different States through cluster approach and has jointly developed 51 Clusters (45 pre-cocoon and 6 post cocoon) covering 16 States involving around 250-300 stakeholders in each Cluster. The main objective of this Cluster Development Programme is to bestow special attention for the improvement of productivity in all stages to produce high quality silk in the country. State-wise and sector-wise number of such Sericulture Clusters are as under:-

Sl. No.	State	Pre-Cocoon Clusters	Post-Cocoon Clusters	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Karnataka	7	1	8
(Location to be finalized)				

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.