

**Adverse effect of instability in prices of cotton on textile industry**

†2926. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to instability in the prices of the cotton in domestic market the textile industries are moving towards sickness;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is necessary that the prices of the cotton remain low and stable in the domestic market; and
- (d) if so, the measures to be adopted by Government to maintain the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Cotton and yarn markets have witnessed price stability in 2011-12 cotton season. Government does not have any reports of supply side disruptions.

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

(c) and (d) The cotton prices are stable and are ruling above MSP prices. Cotton Corporation of India conducts MSP operations when prices fall below MSP rates.

**Package for handloom weavers**

2927. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to grant Rs. 2350 crore package for handloom weaver units in the country;
- (b) if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether it is proposed to advance this financial package to individual weavers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also proposed to grant such a package to handloom cooperatives in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has approved a Comprehensive Package for handloom weavers in December 2011 to address the two critical needs of the handloom sector i.e. Institutional Credit and availability of the yarn at reasonable rates. The package is applicable to all States/UTs.

(c) and (d) Under the Institutional Credit Component of the Comprehensive Package, which has been operationalised by modifying the Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS), individual handloom weavers are eligible for margin money @ Rs 4200/- per weaver, interest subsidy @ 3% per annum and guarantee cover on the loans extended by the Banks to the individual weavers.

Under the 10% price subsidy on hank yarn component of the Comprehensive Package, which has been operationalised by modifying the Mill Gate Price Scheme (MGPS), individual handloom weavers are eligible to get subsidised cotton yarn and silk yarn. The quantity of yarn eligible per month to an individual weaver per handloom is as follows:

Cotton (below 40s counts)	30 Kgs./loom/month
Cotton (40s counts and above)	10 Kgs./loom/month
Silk Yarn (domestic silk)	4 Kgs./loom/month

(e) and (f) Under the Institutional Credit component of the Comprehensive Package, handloom cooperatives are eligible for interest subsidy @ 3% per annum and guarantee cover on the loans extended by the Banks to the handloom cooperatives.

Under the 10% price subsidy on hank yarn component of the Comprehensive Package, quantity of yarn eligible to the handloom cooperatives is restricted on the number of handlooms working with the handloom cooperatives. The quantum of hank yarn eligible per handloom is as follows:

Cotton (below 40s counts)	30 Kgs./loom/month
Cotton (40s counts and above)	10 Kgs./loom/month
Silk Yarn (domestic silk)	4 Kgs./loom/month

#### **Providing more employment to women in textile sector**

†2928. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making efforts to establish linkage between gender resource centres and various institutions in order to provide more employment to women in the textile sector;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.