

**National Policy for handicraft industry**

2783. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to have any National Policy for handicraft industry which is the second largest employing sector of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to have any plans for women employers in the handicraft sector, to provide social and financial assistance and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI) : (a) Yes Sir. The Government proposes to formulate a new National Textile Policy, which will also cover handicrafts sector.

(b) The Government is implementing following seven generic schemes for the promotion and development of Handicraft sector.-

- (i) Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana.
- (ii) Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme.
- (iii) Marketing Support Services Scheme.
- (iv) Research and Development Scheme.
- (v) Human Resource Development Scheme.
- (vi) Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
- (vii) Infrastructure Technological Development Scheme.

These schemes are gender neutral and benefits are available equally to women also.

**Programmes for development of weavers**

†2784. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of handloom weavers in various States of the country;

(b) the detail of programmes being run by Government for the development of weavers;

(c) the percentage of raw materials being made available to weavers for weaving and the marketing arrangements made for the finished products; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) the names of schemes planned to be implemented for weavers in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) As per all India Handloom Census (2009-10), there are 43.31 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers in the country. State-wise list is given in Statement (See below).

(b) For the development of hand loom weavers, the Government of India has taken up various policy initiatives and interventions through schemes and programmes such as cluster approach, technological upgradation, marketing assistance, availability of subsidized yarn and credit to the individual weaver, besides providing health and life insurance cover to the handloom weavers.

(c) To ensure adequate availability of hank yarn to the handloom sector; the Government has promulgated the Hank Yarn Packing Notification (HYPN) under the provision of Essential Commodities Act. As per the notification, 40% cotton yarn has to be packed in hank form available for use in the handloom sector. The GOI has been providing marketing assistance to the handloom weavers through exhibitions, expos, craft melas, urban haats, international fairs and exhibitions etc. under the Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme.

(d) Following schemes are being implemented for the handloom weavers in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan:-

- (i) Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme ( CHDS);
- (ii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme;
- (iii) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS); and
- (iv) Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package for handloom sector.

***Statement***

*State-wise status of total handloom workers as per  
3rd Handloom Census (2009-10)*

Sl.N.	State	Nos. of total workers (2009-10)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	355838
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	33041
3.	Assam	1643453

Sl.N.	State	Nos. of total workers (2009-10)
4.	Bihar	43392
5.	Chhattisgarh	8191
6.	Delhi	2738
7.	Gujarat	11009
8.	Haryana	7967
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13458
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	33209
11.	Jharkhand	21160
12.	Karnataka	89256
13.	Kerala	14679
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14761
15.	Maharashtra	3418
16.	Manipur	218753
17.	Meghalaya	13612
18.	Mizoram	43528
19.	Nagaland	66490
20.	Odisha	114106
21.	Puducherry	2803
22.	Punjab	2636
23.	Rajasthan	31958
24.	Sikkim	568
25.	Tamil Nadu	352321
26.	Tripura	137177
27.	Uttar Pradesh	257783
28.	Uttarakhand	15468
29.	West Bengal	779103
	TOTAL	4,331,876