

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir, Central Government has not received any proposal to amend the provisions of Essential Commodities Act with regard to cotton and cotton yarn from Government of Maharashtra.

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

#### **Living standard of handloom weavers**

†1209. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handloom weavers in the different States of the Country alongwith details thereof;

(b) whether Government is going to prepare any action plan to raise the living standard of handloom weavers in the county;

(c) if so, the outline of the action plan, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of the alternative plan with Government for raising the living standard of the poor handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per handloom census (2009-10), there are 43.32 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers in the country. The State-wise detail is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) To improve the living standard of handloom weavers and sustainable development of handloom sector, the Ministry of Textiles, through various schemes and programmes, has adopted focused, flexible and holistic approach by facilitating marketing of handloom products, infrastructure development, brand building and empowerment of weavers by organizing them under self help groups, training and skill upgradation, infusion of new and contemporary designs through design intervention as well as product diversification, technology upgradation, easy access to raw material at subsidized prices and easy credit flow at low interest rate etc., besides providing better health care and life insurance under welfare schemes. With this objective, following schemes have been approved for implementation during Twelfth Plan:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. National Handloom Development Programme - two components:
  - (i) Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme (3 schemes of 11th Plan merged into this scheme. These schemes were Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme, Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme and Diversified Handlooms Development Scheme).
  - (ii) Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package for handloom sector.
2. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme- two components:
  - (i) Health Insurance Scheme for access to health care facilities.
  - (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana for life insurance.
3. Yarn Supply Scheme.
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme.

The details of schemes are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

- (d) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise handloom weavers and allied workers as per  
handloom census 2009-10*

Sl. No.	State	No. of handloom weavers and allied workers
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	355838
2	Arunachal Pradesh	33041
3	Assam	1643453
4	Bihar	43392
5	Chhattisgarh	8191
6	Delhi	2738

1	2	3
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

**Statement-II***Brief details of schemes under implementation for Handloom Sector***1. National handloom development programme:**

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) is being implemented as a centrally sponsored programme for development of handlooms, having following components:

**a. Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) package for the handloom sector:**

RRR package covers waiver of overdue loan 100% principal and 25% of interest as on 31/3/2010 and recapitalization assistance of eligible apex and primary weavers of the cooperative societies and individual weavers and also provides fresh loan at 6% interest rate along with credit guarantee for 3 years. The RRR Package was approved for implementation upto 28.02.2014. For providing access to subsidized term loan as well as working capital loan to handloom weavers not covered under loan waiver package, Government has approved Concessional Credit Component. The loan is sanctioned to weavers at 6% interest and GoI interest subvention is max.7% and to leverage the loan, Government provides margin money assistance upto Rs. 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee through Credit guarantee Trust Fund for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).

**b. Comprehensive Handlooms Development scheme (CHDS):**

CHDS has been formulated by merging the components of Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS), Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme (MEPS) and Diversified Handloom Development Scheme (DHDS), implemented during the Eleventh Plan. Sub-components of the CHDS are as follows:-

- (i.) Development of handloom clusters of different sizes
- (ii.) Consolidation of existing handloom clusters in 2 years
- (iii.) Group Approach Projects
- (iv.) Marketing Incentive
- (v.) Organizing handloom exhibitions, both in India and abroad for marketing of handloom products

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(vi.) Strengthening of handloom organizations/institutions

(vii.) Handloom Census

(viii.) Publicity, monitoring, supervision, training and evaluation of the scheme

**2. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme:**

This scheme has 2 components namely Health Insurance Scheme (HIS) and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY). The HIS aims at enabling the weaver community to access healthcare facilities. The scheme covers not only the weaver but the spouse and two children. It also provides outpatient (OP) treatment facility. On the other hand, MGBBY aims to provide insurance cover to handloom weavers in the case of natural as well as accidental death and in cases of total or partial disability. A scholarship of Rs.300/- per quarter per child subject to two children studying in standard IX to XII is also provided under MGBBY.

**3. Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS):**

This scheme makes available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom agencies and the transport and depot operating expenses are being borne by the Government of India. Further, to provide the subsidized yarn to handloom weavers in order to compete with powerloom and mill sector, a new component of 10% price subsidy on cotton hank yarn, domestic silk yarn and woolen yarn is also provided.

**4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme:**

Mega handloom cluster covers 25,000 handlooms and is developed with GoI share limited to Rs.70.00 crore for each in a period of 5 years. So far, six mega handloom clusters at Varanasi, Sivasagar, Murshidabad, Godda, Virudhnagar and Prakasham (A.P.) have been taken up for development in handloom sector.

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**Production of cotton**

210. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cotton crop for the season 2013-14, beginning October 1, 2013, is estimated to be 388.85 lakh bales;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of production of cotton crop during the said year;