

- Establishment of loco and coach manufacturing units.
- Installation of captive power generation and renewable energy projects (solar, wind etc).
- Introduction of mobile ticketing.
- Construction of dedicated freight corridors: the Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) on the Eastern (Dankuni-Ludhiana, 1839 kms) and Western, (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) - Dadri, 1499 kms) routes are being constructed. The DFC Corridors are a strategic capacity augmentation initiative taken by Railways involves construction of dedicated freight lines to carry predominantly coal and steel on the Eastern Corridor and containers on the Western Corridor .
- For financing, apart from ring-fencing priority projects and ensuring funding for last mile projects as announced in the Budget Speech 2014-15, areas such as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Public Private Partnership (PPP) are being tapped.

#### **Development of handloom park at Bhudan Pochampalli**

1541. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then Minister had assured in September, 2013, at Bhongiri, Telangana, that the Ministry would provide ₹ 15 crore for development of hand-loom park at Bhundan Pochampalli;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even though it has a capacity of 2,000 looms, only 150 are currently running resulting in problems for weavers in the park; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to release the money and to increase the number of looms to 2,000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (c) The then Hon'ble Minister of Textiles had visited the Pochampalli Handloom Park on 16th September, 2013 and requested the State Government to convey their 'in-principle' approval for bearing 50% of the cost required for strengthening of the Pochampally Handloom Park. A meeting of the Committee was held on 5th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Secretary

(Textiles) for strengthening of Pochampally handloom park. However, it could not be considered for want of certain information/documents as required under the Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

### **Saving handloom industry of Uttarakhand**

†1542. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that handloom industry in Uttarakhand is on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, whether State Government has requested Central Government to extend its helping hand in order to save the handloom industry;

(c) if so, the details of central aid being provided to the State under this head; and

(d) if not, the suggestion Government propose to give to the State to save handloom industry in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Government of India has not received any report from Government of Uttarakhand that the handloom industry is on the verge of closure in the State.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the Eleventh and Twelfth Plans (till November, 2014), a sum of ₹ 10.53 crore has been released to the State of Uttarakhand under the Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme. Under the Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package, a sum of ₹ 2.14 crore has been released to Uttarakhand State through NABARD. Under the Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, claims of ₹ 0.97 crore were settled. Under the Yarn Supply Scheme, Yarn worth ₹ 5.77 crore supplied to the handloom weavers/agencies of Uttarakhand State.

(d) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.