

Apart from the above, the following incentive schemes have been introduced by the State Government *w.e.f.* September, 2013:-

- (i) 10% State subsidy for export promotion.
- (ii) 6% interest subsidy on working capital to PWCS/Clusters/Handloom Groups.
- (iii) 5% additional marketing incentives over and above of existing marketing. Incentive funded equally by the GOI and State subject to a maximum ceiling to ₹ 5.00 lakh per PWCS.
- (iv) Power consumption in weaver's household to be treated as domestic consumption.

#### **Empowering handloom weavers**

1549. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to examine the feasibility of mechanizing any two out of the three basic motions of shedding, picking and beating and in the process convert the handloom industry to powerloom, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Sub-committee formed by the Ministry to go into the details of this proposal does not have a representative of weavers and on the country only has representatives of the powerloom industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the recent steps taken by Government aimed at empowering handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government had constituted a Sub-Committee to examine the issue of change of definition of handloom. The sub-committee examined the issue and given its recommendation based on the representations of the stakeholders and recommended that in the process of weaving, the weaver does not use power and hence definition of handloom need not be changed and it should remain in the purest form. The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has accepted the report of the sub-committee. The press brief has also been released for the public.

(b) The sub-committee constituted by the Ministry of textiles did not have any representative from handloom or powerloom weavers to examine the issue of change of definition of handloom. However, the committee had discussed in detail all the aspects of this issue with handloom and powerloom weavers in different clusters of the country.

(c) Government of India is implementing a number of developmental and welfare schemes to empower the handloom weavers such as Yarn supply/Mill Gate Price Scheme, National Handloom Development Programme, Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)-Handloom Mega Cluster.

### **Production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

1550. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cotton produced from October, 2013 to September, 2014 in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that cotton in almost all markets in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana has been quoted less than the MSP;

(c) if so, whether Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) has instructed its centres to buy cotton from farmers at MSP; and

(d) the total cotton brought to market yard by farmers and cotton purchased by CCIL, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) estimate, the cotton production from October 2013 to September, 2014 in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana was 78 lakh bales.

(b) and (c) The cotton prices have touched the MSP level in many parts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) is operating 27 procurement centres in Andhra Pradesh and 81 procurement centres in Telangana.

(d) The details of district-wise arrivals *vis-a-vis* purchases by CCI by the end of November 2014 are given in the Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Arrival of cotton during current cotton season (by November, 2014)*

(1 Bale = 170 Kg.)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Progressive arrivals	Purchases (in bales)
<b>Branch-Warangal</b>			
1.	Karimnagar	160090	110293
2.	Khammam	69677	42109
3.	Mahabubnagar	49317	39276