

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Scheme to provide financial assistance to weavers**

*244. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme has been formulated by Government to give financial assistance to weavers to upgrade their powerloom machines to semi-automatic looms to increase their production;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how many weavers have been provided financial assistance during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether around 1,00,000 families of Bhagalpur, Bihar are involved in weaving Tasar silk products and majority of them live on less than \$1.25 a day; and

(d) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to give financial assistance to the weavers of Bhagalpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has approved the Pilot Scheme of *in-situ* Upgradation of Plain Powerloom for Small Scale Industry Powerloom Sector on 11.09.2013 in order to provide financial assistance to economically weaker, low-end powerloom units having not more than eight plain powerlooms to enable *in-situ* Upgradation of the plain looms with additional attachments. The Pilot Scheme of *in-situ* Upgradation of Plain Powerloom for SSI Powerloom Sector has been in operation from 11.09.2013 and shall continue upto the end of Twelfth Five Year Plan (2013-14 to 2016-17). Under the scheme, Government of India provides financial assistance to the extent of 50% of the cost of the upgradation that is on attachments of kits, dobby and jacquard, subject to a maximum of ₹ 15,000/- per powerloom and the maximum subsidy to a powerloom unit would be ₹ 1,20,000/- with a subsidy cap of eight powerlooms per unit.

As on date, the scheme has been extended to 21 clusters *viz.* Sircilla, Mau, Tanda, Burhanpur, Bhagalpur, Malegaon, Nagpur, Ichalkaranji, Bhiwandi, Surat, Ahmadabad, Somanur, Ludhiana, Kishangarh, Dholka, Hindupur, Nagari, Solapur, Erode, Salem and Varanasi.

The details of financial assistance provided under the scheme State-wise since its inception (September, 2013) upto 15th March, 2015 are as under:—

Name of the State	Kits installed in looms (Nos.)	Subsidy Released (₹ in lakh)
Gujarat	160	15.20
Andhra Pradesh	464	59.68
Punjab	8	0.92
Tamil Nadu	4982	646.16
Madhya Pradesh	12	1.5
Maharashtra	636	60.78
Uttar Pradesh	20	1.4
TOTAL	6282	785.64

(c) As per information furnished by the Government of Bihar, there are approximately 37,000 weavers in Bhagalpur cluster of Bihar. Out of them 23,000 are Powerloom weavers and 14,000 are Handloom weavers. It has been estimated by the State Government that the average wage per day to the Powerloom weaver is approximately ₹ 200 and the average wage per day to the Handloom weaver is approximately ₹ 150.

(d) In order to promote the silk industry and the welfare of silk weavers, the Catalytic Development Programme of Government of India supports the silk sector. For promotion of sericulture activities in Bhagalpur the Central Silk Board has established the following three units in Bhagalpur District:-

- (i) Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre (BSM&TC) for production and supply of superior Quality basic tasar seeds to the State Government units.
- (ii) Textile Testing Lab and Demonstration-Cum-Technical Service Centre (TTL/DCTSC) for silk testing and demonstration of improved Technologies to reelers and weavers and to provide required training to the beneficiaries.
- (iii) Sub-Unit of Tasar Raw Material Bank (TRMB) for providing local market support for the producers of tasar cocoons, by providing a remunerative price for their produce.

Further, under the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) the following assistance has been given to Bhagalpur and the State of Bihar:-

1. One big handloom cluster and five small clusters have been sanctioned in Bhagalpur by the Govt. of India and ₹ 3.83 crore has been released so far for the development of these clusters.

2. One Mega Handloom Cluster in Bhagalpur has been announced in the budget 2014-15.
3. Under the Yarn Supply Scheme more than 5 lakh kgs of yarn worth ₹ 6.08 crores have been supplied during the last five years in the district of Bhagalpur.
4. Under the Handloom Marketing Assistance, 22 Fairs and exhibition have been organized in the State of Bihar and ₹ 1.12 crore have been released.
5. Under the Revival, Reform and Re-structuring (RRR) Package, ₹ 5.32 crores have been released to the State of Bihar for the benefit of weavers including those in Bhagalpur.
6. More than 3 lakhs weavers of Bihar have been covered under the Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

Disposal of e-waste

*245. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any estimate of e-waste generated by the Information Technology industry and domestic use of computers;
- (b) if so, the details in respect of e-waste generated by Cyberabad in Hyderabad;
- (c) whether Government has drawn up plans for speedy and effective disposal of such waste;
- (d) whether the e-waste disposal will be made part of Swachcha Bharat Abhiyan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) being the nodal Ministry for all environmental related issues, including e-waste, has been involved in inventorization of E-waste generated in the country. As per MoEF&CC, a survey carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) estimated that 1,46,800 tons of E-waste (including computers) was generated in the year 2005. As per the survey, the figure during 2012 was expected to reach at 8,00,000 tons.

(b) As per inventorization carried out in 2010 for three cities of Andhra Pradesh, the estimated e-waste generation was about 4266 MT/annum. The city-wise break up is given below: