

(b) the efforts being made to run more and more solar trains in the country; and

(c) approximately how much savings would be made if solar energy is used to run a train for 1000 kilometres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. Railways have not run a train with rooftop solar power. However, Railways have provided solar panels on roof top of coaches for train lighting system in 18 narrow gauge coaches and 2 broad gauge non air conditioned coaches on trial basis.

(b) No, Sir. However, Railways have taken decision to provide solar panel on roof top of General coaches of two number of day running intercity trains and 50% narrow gauge coaches plying on Pathankot-Joginder Nagar route in Kangra Valley section and Kalka-Shimla section for extended trials for one year in all weather conditions.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for handloom clusters in Chhattisgarh

†2294. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal, for allocation of ₹ 915.56 crore for the development of and provision of other facilities for the weavers of Champa area of Chhattisgarh, has been received by the Government for approval;

(b) whether the approval for setting up handloom clusters in Umreli, Korba, Kera-Janjgir, Seoni-Janjgir, Bhanwarpur-Mahasamund for the development of handloom industry, is yet to be accorded; and

(c) whether the second, third and last outstanding instalment for handloom cluster of some places will be released at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes Sir, a proposal under an outlay of ₹ 915.56 lakh for a pilot project on establishment of Handloom Park at Champa area of Chhattisgarh was received. The proposal was not considered for approval as it is not submitted as per the laid down procedure under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP). However, the office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms under the Ministry of Textiles had received a proposal under National Handloom Development Programme consisting

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Project cost of ₹ 828.8155 lakh for development of four block level clusters of Champa area of Chhattisgarh. Against this, ₹ 571.824 lakh was approved as Project cost consisting GoI share of ₹ 567.378 lakh and beneficiary share of ₹ 4.446 lakh, out of which ₹ 227.611 lakh were released as 1st installment of GoI share to the concerned implementing agencies.

(b) and (c) Approval for setting up of Bhanwarpur-Mahasamund handloom cluster has been accorded under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme during 2010-11. State Government of Chhattisgarh is the implementing agency. State Government had submitted the Utilisation Certificate of 1st installment in 2015. In the meantime, as per the Fourteenth Finance Commission recommendation, the Government of India had enhanced the State share of Central Taxes from 32% to 42% and consequently, National Handloom Development Programme was no more a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Hence the guidelines of National Handloom Development Programme had been revised. As per the revised norms of NHDP, the State Governments have been delinked from the support of Union Government. Hence, there is no provision in the NHDP for further release of funds to the State Government. States are advised to complete the project and pose projects under new guidelines for gap filling.

The proposals for setting up of Umreli, Korba, Kera-Janjgir, Seoni-Janjgir were returned (in original) to State Government of Chhattisgarh with a request to resubmit the same as per the revised norms of National Handloom Development Programme. Reply is still awaited from State.

Allocation of funds for development of handloom weavers

2295. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for various schemes for handloom/handloom weavers' development during the last three fiscal years, the scheme-wise, year-wise details thereof; and

(b) the details of funds utilized and lapsed, scheme-wise and year-wise details for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing following schemes during the Twelfth Plan for development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers throughout the country:-

1. National Handloom Development Programme.
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.