

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Yes, Government is exploring the possibilities of entering into Free Trade Agreement with EU.

(b) Yes, India is placed better *vis-a-vis* Bangladesh and Vietnam in terms of advantage of environmental compliance demanded by EU.

(c) Yes, Government is assisting industry in its efforts to access new and emerging markets for textile and apparel products by organizing overseas fairs, exhibitions and buyer-seller meets under Market Access Initiative and Market Development Assistance Schemes of the Government.

#### **Training to handloom weavers/workers**

478. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing training to handloom weavers/workers for upgrading their skills in weaving, dyeing/printing and design development areas so as to enable them to produce a market driven/diversified range of products;

(b) if so, the details of training provided to number of handloom weavers from all States, including Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Government of India through Ministry of Textiles, office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms is providing training to handloom weavers/workers for upgrading their skills in weaving, dyeing/printing and designing under Skill upgradation programme of Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) to enable them to produce market driven/diversified range of products. State-wise number of training programmes (approximately 20 weavers/workers per programme) for which funds released and training programmes completed/in-progress in various States, including Tamil Nadu is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of training programmes for which funds released  
and completed/in-progress under NHDP/CHCDS  
from 2015-16 to 2016-17 (till date)*

Sl. No.	Name of the States	No. of training programmes for which funds released	No. of training programmes completed/in-progress	Number of the weavers/workers trained (completed/in-progress)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	368	61	1220
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	9	180
3.	Assam	336	57	1140
4.	Bihar	30	2	40
5.	Chhattisgarh	69	39	780
6.	Himachal Pradesh	31	1	20
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	21	3	60
8.	Jharkhand	31	18	360
9.	Karnataka	4	3	60
10.	Kerala	22	13	260
11.	Madhya Pradesh	32	21	420
12.	Manipur	95	50	1000
13.	Meghalaya	52	21	420
14.	Mizoram	32	16	320
15.	Nagaland	35	3	60
16.	Odisha	173	73	1460
17.	Sikkim	3	1	20
18.	Tamil Nadu	129	48	954
19.	Telangana	38	24	480
20.	Tripura	25	13	260
21.	Uttar Pradesh	87	43	860
22.	Uttarakhand	9	0	0
23.	West Bengal	5	1	20
TOTAL		1636	520	10394