

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of handloom weavers and allied workers
28.	Uttarakhand	15,468
29.	West Bengal	779,103
TOTAL		4,331,876

#### **Production and consumption of cotton**

3516. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Association of India has maintained the cotton crop for the 2016-17 season at 341 lakh bales of 170 kg. each, the same as in the previous year; and

(b) whether the Cotton Association of India has increased cotton consumption to 295 lakh bales for the ongoing crop year against previous estimate of 290 lakh bales, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) The Cotton Association of India (CAI) have indicated the cotton crop as 345 lakh bales for the cotton season 2016-17 as against 337.75 lakh bales for the cotton season 2015-16. Cotton Advisory Board (CAB), a body constituted by the Government of India to advise on matters pertaining to production, consumption and marketing of cotton, estimates the cotton crop based on the input received from the stakeholders of the cotton economy viz. Directorate of Cotton Development (DOCD), Cotton Association of India (CAI), Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI), Indian Cotton Federation (ICF) and Indian Cotton Association Ltd. (ICAL). CAB in its meeting held on 24.10.2016 estimated the cotton crop for the cotton season 2016-17 at 351 lakh bales of 170 kg. each as against 338 lakh bales of the previous cotton year 2015-16.

(b) CAB in its meeting held on 24.10.2016 estimated the consumption of cotton for the cotton season 2016-17 at 313 lakh bales of 170 kg. each as against 312 lakh bales of the previous cotton year 2015-16. Cotton consumption estimates are not obtained from the Cotton Association of India which is a trader association.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, Question Hour is over. The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

*The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.*