

(vii) 03 Yarn Depots are functional in the State for supply of yarn to the weavers.

(viii) 23 Hastkala Sahyog Shivirs were organised in handloom and handicraft clusters of the State during 7-17th October, 2017 and 19-24th February, 2018 to facilitate the handloom weavers and handicraft artisans for obtaining MUDRA loan, Yarn Passbooks, looms and accessories, enroll for NIOS and IGNOU courses etc.

(c) Question does not arise.

Creating awareness amongst employees on Government programmes

2558. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ministry has attempted to create requisite awareness amongst its own employees, its associates all over India, including all its Departments and its public sector organisations as regards important programmes of Government such as Swachh Bharat Mission, Digital India and Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, etc., if so, when was it done and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether any replicable practices of implementing these programmes or creating greater awareness about them have been identified and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Textiles has been organizing Swachhta Pakhwada every year since 2015 to spread awareness among its employees through debate competitions, slogan writing competitions, essay writing competitions, cleanliness drives etc. Further, the Ministry prepared Swachhta Action Plan for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 with special focus on outreach programmes to create greater awareness. With regards to Digital India the Ministry has effectively implemented e-office and started procurement through GeM portal since 2016. Further, biometric system of attendance is in place, payments of salaries/allowances to employees and all payments to stakeholders with regard to various schemes implemented by the Ministry are also digitized.

Major flagship schemes of Ministry like Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) and Samarth for Capacity Building in Textile Sector are implemented online. "Handloom Weavers MUDRA portal" a centralized online system in association with Punjab National Bank became operational w.e.f 01.04.2017 for online claim and disbursement of margin money, interest subvention and credit guarantee fee under

Concessional Credit/Weavers MUDRA Scheme. Jute SMART, a digital transformation initiative for transparent end-to-end jute sacking procurement transactions has been launched in December 2016. i-PowerTex India a digital solution for providing online access to the powerloom sector stakeholders to the components of PowerTex India Scheme has been implemented. Indian Handmade Bazar Portal has been launched on 29.01.2017, to provide direct market access facility to genuine handicraft artisans alongwith updated information about handloom and handicraft producers and their products to retail customers, e-commerce players, wholesalers and exporters. Most of the schemes have electronic MIS for monitoring purposes.

The Ministry has been celebrating International Women's Day on 8th March every year, emphasizing significant role of women in nation building. Seminars, Group discussions, lectures/talks are being arranged by the Ministry from time to time to educate the employees about Government efforts to ensure survival, protection and empowerment of girl child mainly highlighting Beti Bachao–Beti Padhao slogans. All the above awareness programmes are implemented successfully to work on replicable basis.

Upliftment of weavers living in Bhagalpur

†2559. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has data of weavers living in Bhagalpur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for their upliftment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) According to the third handloom census 2009-10, there are 13,242 handloom weavers and allied workers in Bhagalpur.

(c) The Government of India is implementing following schemes for upliftment of the handloom weavers across the country, including Bhagalpur:—

- (i) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (ii) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (iii) Handloom Weaver's Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (iv) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.