

Sl. No.	State	Funds released
25.	Puducherry	0.97
26.	Punjab	8.53
27.	Rajasthan	27.81
28.	Sikkim	2.00
29.	Tamil Nadu	17.71
30.	Telangana	8.24
31.	Tripura	2.61
32.	Uttar Pradesh	103.41
33.	Uttarakhand	18.73
34.	West Bengal	8.33
35.	All States (R&D)	1.33
36.	All States (Welfare)	27.73
TOTAL		571.31

Improvement and development of textile sector

†1231. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of steps have been taken for the improvement and development of textile sector during the last four years which primarily includes technology upgradation, research and development, investment in human resources and promoting the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian textile has become an incredibly trustworthy brand on world map in an unprecedented manner due to the steps taken for improvement and development in textile sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to facilitate development of the textiles sector, Government is implementing several key schemes and programmes for ensuring

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

technology upgradation, research and development, investment in human resources and promoting the market. Some of the major schemes and programmes implemented by the Government are as under:—

- (i) **Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS):** The amended Scheme was launched in January, 2016 with an outlay of ₹ 17822 crores. The scheme has been designed to promote ease of doing business in the country and to mobilize new investment of about ₹ 95000 crores and employment for 35 lakh persons by the year 2022.
- (ii) **Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP):** This scheme is implemented in Public Private Partnership mode to attract private investments in developing new clusters of textiles manufacturing. The Government of India provides financial assistance up to 40% of the project within a ceiling of ₹ 40 crores. 19 new projects were sanctioned from 2014 onwards.
- (iii) **Power Tex India:** A comprehensive scheme for powerloom sector was launched in April, 2017 with an outlay of ₹ 487 crores for three years. This scheme has components relating to loom upgradation; infrastructure creation and concessional access to credit. The scheme has been designed to attract investment of ₹ 1000 crores and employment to 10000 persons in powerloom sector and will also result in higher returns to powerloom units.
- (iv) **Scheme for Research and Development:** Ministry of Textiles has launched "Scheme for Research and Development for the Textile Industry" for a period of five year from 2014-15 to 2018-19 with a financial outlay of ₹ 149 crore. The Scheme has three basic components as mentioned below:—

Component - I: Research and Development in Textiles and allied Sector

Component - II: Promotion of R&D in Jute Sector; Transfer of technologies and dissemination activities in jute sector

Component - III: Benchmarking studies, Knowledge dissemination and promoting green initiatives through R&D

In case of any of the above 3 components, for applied Research, the Scheme has provision of funding upto 70% of the total project cost and balance would have to be arranged by the respective Project Executing Agency. Similarly for basic research, 100% funding shall be provided under the Scheme.

- (v) **SAMARTH- The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector:** A new scheme with an outlay of ₹ 1300 crores has been approved in December, 2017 for providing employment oriented training to 10 lakh people in various segments in textiles including one lakh in traditional sectors, by March, 2020.
- (vi) **North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS):** To promote textile industry in the North Eastern Region by providing infrastructure, capacity building and marketing support to all segments of textile industry. The scheme has an outlay of ₹ 500 crores during 2017-18 to 2019-20. Under this scheme, Apparel and Garment Making Centres (factories), fully equipped with industrial garmenting machineries have been set up in plug and play model in each NE States and Sikkim. Each Centre is designed to generate employment for 1200 persons. Under Sericulture, 24 projects have been approved covering Mulberry, Eri and Muga sectors in all NE States having total cost ₹ 819.19 crores with Government of India share of ₹ 690.01 crores.
- (vii) **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP):** These programmes aim at holistic development of handloom and handicrafts clusters through integrated approach. The strategic interventions under the programme include financial assistance for new upgraded looms and tool kits, design development, training, easy access to working capital through customized Mudra loan for weavers and artisans and direct marketing support to the weavers and artisans through expos, fair, buyer seller meet and e-commerce.
- (viii) **Deendayal Hastkala Sankul (Trade Centre and Museum), Varanasi:** The State of the art Trade Center and Craft Museum - Deendayal Hastkala Sankul has been set up in Varanasi to help the artisans and weavers of Varanasi and neighbouring areas to showcase their skills to the world, and also boost the tourism potential of Varanasi.
- (ix) **Silk Samagra:** Government of India has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Silk Samgra" for development of sericulture in the country with the components; Research and Development, Training, Transfer of Technology and I.T. Initiatives, Seed Organisations, Coordination and Market Development and Quality Certification Systems (QCS)/Export Brand Promotion and Technology Upgradation. R&D efforts have also been initiated to evolve

new products by blending silk with other fibres such as wool, coir, cotton etc., which have demand in international markets.

- (x) **Jute ICARE:** A project Jute ICARE (Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise) was introduced in 2015 for improving productivity and quality of raw jute through carefully designed interventions. The project has benefitted more than 1.33 lakhs farmers in various States in the country.
- (xi) **Jute Packaging Material (JPM) Act, 1987:** Under the norms, 90% reservation for packing of food grains and 20% for packing of sugar in the Jute bags has been prescribed.
- (xii) **Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP):** Government of India has recently approved IWDP for implementation during 2017-18 to 2019-20 after integrating and rationalization of various schemes for holistic-growth of wool sector by providing support to entire chain of wool sector from wool rearer to end consumer to increase the wool A production as well as its quality.

(c) and (d) In addition to various steps taken for improvement and development in textile sector, several other initiatives have been taken by the Government to boost textiles and apparel exports with a view to establish Indian textiles as a trustworthy brand at global level. Some major steps/initiatives are given below:—

- (i) **Special Package for Textile and Apparel sector:** ₹ 6000 crores package was launched in June, 2016 to boost employment and export potential in the apparel and made up segments. This package consists of Remission of State Levies for garmenting and made-ups; additional production and employment linked subsidy of 10% under ATUFS for garmenting; assistance for the entire 12% employers' contribution towards EPF; fixed term employment in garmenting, increasing overtime caps; and income tax concessions under section 80JJAA for the garmenting sector.
- (ii) **Enhanced Customs Duty to boost domestic manufacturing:** To boost indigenous production and Make in India, Government has increased Basic Customs Duty from 10% to 20% on 501 textile products.
- (iii) **'India Handloom Brand'** Scheme has been launched by the Government in 2015 to enhance the quality in weaving, designing and defect free handloom products for safeguarding the interest of the buyers in the domestic and

international markets. It will promote production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment.

- (iv) **The Export Promotion Councils (EPCs)** work in close co-operation with various organizations of the Government to promote the growth and export of their respective sectors *viz.* readymade garments, cotton, silk, jute, powerloom, handloom, handicrafts and carpets, in global markets. EPCs participate and organize fairs and exhibitions and standalone shows in India and overseas markets to enhance exports and access new markets.
- (v) **Enhancement of rates under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS):** To further boost exports of apparel and made-up sectors, interest rates under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) has been enhanced from 2% to 4% for apparel, 5% to 7% for made-ups, handloom and handicrafts w.e.f. 1st November, 2017.
- (vi) **Interest rate subvention:** Credit interest rate subvention for pre and post shipment was restored in 2015 for three years. The Government has enhanced interest equalization rate for pre and post shipment credit for the textile sector from 3% to 5 % w.e.f. 02.11.2018.
- (vii) **Market Access Initiative (MAI):** The objective of scheme is to promote India's exports on a sustained basis. The scheme is formulated on product-focus country approach to evolve specific market and specific product through market studies/survey. The following activities are eligible for financial assistance under the scheme:—
- Marketing Projects Abroad
 - Capacity Building
 - Support for Statutory Compliances
 - Studies
 - Project Development
 - Developing Foreign Trade Facilitation web Portal
 - Support for Cottage and handicrafts units
- (viii) The Government has set-up 19 Testing laboratories including one under Pubic Private Partnership (PPP) mode to test the textiles and textiles products

for conformance to various national and international standards. 14 of these laboratories are accredited as per ISO 17025:2005. Further, the Government has entered into an MoU with (Japan Textile Products Quality and Technology Center- QTEC) for a promotion of Quality of Textiles meant for export to Japanese market.

- (ix) **Textiles India 2017:** The Ministry of Textiles organized a 3 days mega textile exhibition namely, Textiles India, 2017 from 30th June to 2nd July, 2017 at Gujarat. The Principal objective of organizing the said mega event was to bring all segments of the Textiles sector under one umbrella trade event and showcase the strength of the Indian Textiles sector to the world. This event witnessed participation of buyers from 105 countries, international delegates and representatives and artisans and weavers.

These initiatives have benefitted textile industry in becoming second largest manufacturer and exporter in the world, after China. The textile industry is intrinsically intertwined with the rich cultural heritage and traditions of the country. The fact that 45% of textiles and apparel exports to developed countries is a testimony to the unique brand of Indian textiles.

Welfare of rural artisans

1232. DR.VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry possesses any data of rural artisans all over the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) what schemes and programmes the Ministry has been working with for empowerment of the artisans and the handicrafts in general; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has any structured coordination mechanism with other Ministries to boost export of Indian handicrafts, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes, Sir. Till date, 23.08 lakhs handicrafts artisans have been mobilised under PAHCHAN initiative. The State-wise data of handicrafts artisans is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (b) Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) implements various schemes for empowerment of the handicrafts artisans under "National Handicraft