

Support to Artisan Scheme

1122. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of artisans in the country particularly in Gujarat and Jharkhand who have received livelihood support under the 'Support to Artisan Scheme' during each of the last three years;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to create infrastructure to support leather artisans; and

(c) if so, the details of the areas of investment under the scheme along with the funds utilised during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Support to artisans was provided under the "Support to Artisans" sub-scheme of Indian Leather Development Programme (ILDLP) scheme during the period from 01.04.2012 to 31.03.2017. The scheme ceased to operate with effect from 01.04.2017. No fund was released during the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 for Support to Artisans.

(b) and (c) In continuation of ILDP, the Government has approved special package for employment generation in leather and footwear sector involving implementation of Central Sector Scheme "Indian Footwear, Leather and Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP)" with seven sub-schemes involving an expenditure of ₹2600 crore over three financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 on 15th December, 2017 and notified on 21st December, 2017. Out of the seven sub-schemes, the following four sub-schemes are for infrastructure creation and development:

- (i) Integrated Development of Leather Sector
- (ii) Mega Leather Footwear and Accessories Cluster
- (iii) Leather Technology Innovation and Environmental Issues
- (iv) Establishment of Institutional Facilities

Details of fund released for infrastructure development under the IFLADP scheme are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the sub-scheme of IFLADP	Total (₹ in crore)			Details
		2017-18	2018-19	Total	
		(till date)			
1.	Integrated Development of Leather Sector	51.43	3.45	54.88	Fund has been released to 146 beneficiary units
2.	Establishment of Institutional Facilities	0.00	38.88	38.88	Fund has been released for development of seven campuses of Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) into Centers of Excellence located at Noida, Rohtak, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jodhpur and Patna.
3.	Leather Technology Innovation and Environmental Issues Sub-scheme	0.00	0.38	0.38	Fund has been released to Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) for "Co-Digestion of Tannery Solid Wastes with Biogas Generation in Calcutta Leather Complex".

Credit Guarantee Fund for startup companies

1123. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to set up a Credit Guarantee Fund for encouraging startup companies in the country with a view to providing funding facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of companies that have availed the scheme so far, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the incentives being provided to the startup companies to overcome their initial hurdles, the details thereof?