

an objective to promote „enterprise culture% amongst the SC/ST Population. The number of SC/ST entrepreneurs who have availed benefits under NSSH for capacity building programmes, market linkage programmes viz., participation in domestic and foreign exhibitions, subsidy for registration under Single Point Registration Scheme, subsidy for enrollment on B2B portal and subsidy for rating of unit under Performance and Credit Rating during last three years are as under:

Year	No. of beneficiaries
2016-17*	1323
2017-18	3827
2018-19	16352

*NSSH was launched in October 2016.

(c) Under Special Marketing Assistance Scheme (SMAS) of National SC-ST Hub, marketing support is provided to SC/ST MSMEs for enhancement of competitiveness and marketability of their products by way of facilitating their participation in domestic and international exhibitions/trade fairs, vendors development programme, awareness campaigns, etc. 15,792 SC/ST entrepreneurs have been assisted under SMAS till 31.03.2019.

Global competitiveness of Indian MSMEs sector

1041. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be please to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government for enhancing the global competitiveness of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether technology, generally used by the MSMEs is a major cause for poor competitiveness of this sector;

(d) whether there is an urgent need to develop appropriate technologies for various manufacturing processes to bring down the cost in the MSMEs sector in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps were taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN GADKARI): (a) and (b) Government implements National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) to support MSMEs in improving their competitiveness. Schemes to promote Lean Manufacturing, Design improvement, Zero Defect Zero Effect Certification, Support for Incubators, Awareness of Intellectual Property Rights and Digital Empowerment to MSMEs have been put in place to achieve the related objectives.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) implements Credit Linked Capital Subsidy-Technological Up-gradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS) to support MSMEs in their technology up-gradation endeavors.

Funds for spinners/weavers

1042. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/ programmes being implemented by Government for sustainability of khadi and improving the income of spinners/weavers across the country;

(b) whether the said schemes/ programmes have achieved the desired results in the country during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, scheme/programme-wise and if not, the reasons therefor along with the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the details of the funds provided under the said schemes/programmes along with its utilisation during the said period, scheme/programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN GADKARI): (a) The Ministry of MSME, through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is implementing the following schemes for sustainability of Khadi and improving the income of spinners/weavers across the country:

(i) Khadi Grant:

1. "Strengthening infrastructure of existing weak Khadi Institutions and assistance for marketing infrastructure" provides for renovation of khadi sales outlets and providing assistance for strengthening infrastructure of existing weak selected institutions
2. "Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans" for providing assistance for construction of worksheds.