

aspects and problems of Handicrafts in order to generate useful inputs to aid policy planning and fine tune the ongoing initiatives.

- (vii) The Scheme "Marketing Support and Services" was introduced to promote and provide financial assistance is provided to artisans to participate in domestic and international craft exhibitions/seminars in metropolitan cities/ State capitals/ places of tourist or commercial interest/ other places.

The CHCDS has two components namely Mega Cluster and special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft (IDPH):

- (i) Mega cluster approach is a drive to scale up the infrastructural and production chain at Handicrafts clusters. The prospects of this sector lie in infrastructural upgradation, modernization of the machinery and product diversification and innovative manufacturing as well as, furthered by brand building of the native products hold the key to creating a niche market for the products manufactured by the clusters.
- (ii) Special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft (IDPH) was introduced to provide adequate infrastructure for production, value addition and quality assurance for handicrafts and to develop handicrafts as a sustainable and remunerative livelihood option for artisans in the State.

(b) For promotion and upliftment of Zari crafts Office of Development Commissioner (Handicraft) has established five Common Facility Centres at Bareilly district of Uttar-Pradesh under Mega Cluster Scheme wherein artisans are also provided technical and design support at their workplace.

Rehabilitation of handloom workers

1550. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of jobs lost due to replacement of handlooms with power looms;
- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to rehabilitate the handloom workers; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to protect the art of handloom and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per 3rd handloom census (2009-10), there are 43.31 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers across the country. Handloom weaving is a household activity, where weaver and his family carry out handloom activity basically from their home. Due to its nature of being a household activity, the number of weavers and allied workers across the country vary from time to time.

(b) and (c) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for promotion and development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country:—

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

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, marketing of handloom products, loan at concessional rates etc.

A. National handloom development programme (NHDP)

- (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level.
- (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistance** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.

- (iii) **Weavers' MUDRA Scheme:** Under the Weavers' MUDRA Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. MUDRA portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention

- B. **Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme:** The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering atleast 15000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as Gol share from ₹ 40.00 to ₹70.00 crore is in a period of 5 years. 8 mega handloom clusters taken up as announced in the Budgets *i.e.* Varanasi, Sivasagar (2008-09), Virudhunagar, Murshidabad (2009-10), Prakasam and Guntur districts and Godda and neighboring districts (2012-13), Bhagalpur and Trichy (2014-15).

Under the scheme, components like conducting Diagnostic Study, engaging Designer, Product Development, Corpus for raw material, Construction of Worksheds (for BPL/SC/ST/Women weavers), Skill up-gradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology up-gradation, Design Studio, including the Computer Aided Design System, Marketing Complex, Value Addition (setting up of garment unit), Common Infrastructure, Publicity etc., are funded by the GOI to the extent of 80%.

- C. **Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme :** Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).
- D. **Yarn Supply Scheme:** Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk and woollen yarn with quantity caps.

E. **Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS):** Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December, 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released directly in the bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.

F. **Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children:** Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

G. **"India Handloom" Brand:** During the celebration of 7th August, 2015 as National Handloom Day, 'India Handloom' Brand was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of ₹ 689.72 crore as reported on 31-03-2019.

Initiatives with various leading brands has been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

H. **E-commerce:** In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for

on-line marketing of handloom products. A total sales of ₹34.72 crore has been reported through the online portal as on 31-03-2019.

- I. **Urban Haats** are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate middle agencies. 38 such Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.
- J. **SANT KABIR AWARD** is conferred to outstanding handloom weavers who are carrying on with the tradition and have made valuable contribution to the development of the sector. Since 2012 to 2016, 24 Sant Kabir Awards have been conferred to the handloom weavers.
- K. **National Award** is conferred to handloom weavers in recognition of their outstanding craftsmanship contribution and development of handloom weaving. This recognition encourage them to continue with the work in a more enthusiastic and productive manner. Since 2012 to 2016, National Awards have been conferred to 102 handloom weavers across the country.

From the year 2016, two Sant Kabir Awards, four National Awards and four National Merit Certificates awards have also been instituted exclusively to the women handloom weavers in addition to the existing Sant Kabir Awards, National Awards and National Merit Certificate in the field of weaving. This exclusive award to the women handloom weavers is named as 'Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay - Awards'. 7 such awards were conferred to women handloom weavers during National Handloom Day celebrated at Jaipur on 7th August, 2018.

Primitive Tribes in Maharashtra

†1551. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the number of tribes and their types in the country;
- (b) the number of Primitive Tribes and their types out of this and their total population, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.