

unemployment be prepared and attached in the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of the PLFS.

(d) Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics (SCLFC) has been constituted with eminent experts/academicians and representatives from major user Ministries/ Departments of the Government to periodically review the system and methodology relating to the surveys on Labour Force Statistics including that of PLFS on continuing basis and recommend, *inter alia*, the improvements in survey methodology whenever required.

Admission in Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem

3772. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem has allotted 50 per cent of its seats for B.Tech. in Handloom Technology and Textile course exclusively to the candidates from Tamil Nadu and the remaining 50 per cent seats to the candidates from the entire country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this policy of admission is deviation from the very purpose of its establishment?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles had introduced four year degree course "B.Tech. in Handloom and Textile Technology" at Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem from the academic session 2015-16 with an approved intake of 60 students per year. This programme is affiliated to Anna University. The allocation of seats has been done as per norms of the affiliating University.

CFCs for development of textiles

3773. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for setting up of Common

Facility Centres (CFCs) at block/municipal level for providing basic facilities for the development of textiles both handloom and powerloom industries in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to boost the textile sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) schemes, wherein there is provision for setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs) to provide basic facilities like loom shed, warping, dyeing, yarn depot and store room etc. For development of Powerloom sector, Ministry of Textiles is implementing PowerTex India scheme.

(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:—

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (4) 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, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

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 three 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.
- (iv) **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.
- (v) **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 programmes 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.

- (vi) **"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.

- (vii) **E-Commerce** : In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy framework 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 online marketing of handloom products. A total sales of ₹34.72 crore has been reported through the online portal as on 31.03.2019.
- (viii) **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.

B. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering atleast 15,000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as GoI share from ₹ 40.00 to ₹70.00 crore is in a period of five years. Eight 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 upgradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology upgradation, 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.

Welfare scheme for artisans

3774. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

- (a) the details of schemes being run for the development and welfare of artisans;
- (b) whether Government has any mechanism to find out that the benefits of such schemes reach the artisans; and
- (c) the number of artisans benefited under these schemes during the last three years, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Government implements various schemes for promotion and development of handicrafts sector under "National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP)" and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS).

The NHDP has following components:—

1. Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (Base Line Survey and Mobilization of Artisans)