

across the country, where artisans can interact directly with consumer, buyers and exporters.

2. Gandhi Shilp Bazaars are organized in metropolitan cities/State capitals/ places of tourist or commercial interest/other places to provide wider marketing platforms to artisans.
3. Craft Bazaars are organized in consideration with important fairs/festivals/ historic places/ places of tourist interest etc. of the particular selected areas.
4. Smaller marketing events (Exhibitions) are also organised to provide marketing opportunity at local level to group of artisans from the area.
5. The Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) also hire stalls at prominent places at established fairs to display and sell the products of the handicrafts artisans.

#### **Reviving traditional skills of weaving**

750. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made by Government to revive the nearly lost traditional skill of weaving of textiles across the country; and
- (b) the details of various health insurance and other welfare schemes being run by Government for the weavers, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Government of India has been implementing Block Level Cluster scheme across the country under which training for Skill upgradation is imparted to handloom weavers in Weaving, Designing, Dyeing and Printing, Management and Information Technology. For holistic development of handloom sector, Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes across the country including Uttar Pradesh:-

- (i) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS);
- (ii) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);
- (iii) Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme (CHCDS); and
- (iv) Yarn Supply scheme

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, loans at concessional rates.

A. Handloom Weavers 'Comprehensive Welfare Scheme:

Handloom 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).

(B) Education of handloom weavers and their children:

Ministry of Textiles has signed Memoranda 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.

(C) 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 workshop, 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.

(D) **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%.

(E) **Yarn Supply Scheme:**

Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yam 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 yam, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk and woollen yarn with quantity caps.

(F) **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.

- (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.
- (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.

#### Work done for empowering tribals

†751. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of works done by Government to empower the tribals in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha during the last three years and the changes that have come into the lives of tribal people?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for overall development of tribal people living across the country including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha, which includes support for education, health, sanitation, water supply, skill development, livelihood etc. Major part of infrastructure development and provision of basic amenities in tribal areas/regions in the country is carried out through various schemes/programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging critical gaps.

During 2018-19, Ministry of Tribal Affairs had introduced a separate Scheme of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) with the objective to provide quality middle

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.