

and to support the development of entire value chain starting from inputs, seeds, certification, to the creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing marketing and brand building initiative. The main focus is on export of produce. Under the scheme the farmers are given assistance of ₹ 25000/ha/3 years for both on-farm and off-farm organic inputs, and seeds/planting material. ₹ 495 crores have been allocated to 100 Farmers Producer Companies (FPCs) covering 2500 Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs), 50,000 ha area and 50,000 farmers for the 3 year period from 2018-19 to 2020-21.

In the PKVY scheme, assistance of ₹ 50,000 per hectare/3 years is provided, out of which ₹ 31,000 (62%) is given to the farmers directly through DBT, ₹ 1185 crore have been allocated for a period from 2018-19 to 2020-21 to target an area of around 4.10 lakh ha. Further, Ministry of Agriculture has been focusing on creating awareness and educating the farmers about organic farming practices in the areas where clusters are formed. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram under the research scheme on All India Network Program on Organic Farming (AI-NPOF) has developed 51 cropping systems and conducted workshops in Rajasthan.

Gratuity schemes for handloom weavers under ESI Act

3013. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for bringing ESI and maternity benefits and payment of gratuity schemes for handloom weavers and handicrafts persons under the ESI Act, 1948, the Maternity Benefits Act, 1961 and the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Provisions of Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, Maternity Benefits Act, 1961 and

Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 are applicable to formal sector where employer-employee relationship exists. Handloom and Handicraft Sectors are mostly unorganized and decentralized, with characteristics of Cottage Industry. These enterprises are often operated out of home rather than from a purpose-built facility, with very little investment in Plant and Machinery.

Bringing various schemes under PMRPY for textile sector

3014. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to implement Employees' Provident Fund and Employee's Pension Scheme under Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) scheme providing entire 12 per cent employer's contribution by the Central Government to handloom weavers and handicraft persons at par with employees of garment and other textile units;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Provisions of Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) are applicable to formal sector where employer-employee relationship exists. Handloom and Handicraft Sectors are mostly unorganised and decentralized, with characteristics of Cottage Industry. These enterprises are often operated out of home rather than from a purpose-built facility, with very little investment in Plant and Machinery.

National Mission for Technical Textiles

3015. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved launch of National Mission for Technical Textiles to integrate technology and manufacturing;