

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1231
ANSWERED ON- 29/07/2021

SPECIAL PACKAGE TO DEVELOP HANDLOOM SECTOR

1231. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:
SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to implement special package to develop/improve the handloom sector in the country at par with MSME Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) to (c): The Handloom Sector is unorganized, rural-centric and traditional in nature. To overcome various challenges being faced by handloom weavers, the Ministry of Textiles has taken following new initiatives to develop and improve the handloom sector: -

- i. To support the handloom sector and to enable wider market for handloom weavers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. So far about 1.50 Lakh weavers have been on-boarded on the GeM portal.
- ii. To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and ensure better incomes, 125 Handloom Producer companies have been formed in different States.
- iii. Under Concessional Credit/Weaver MUDRA Scheme, margin money assistance at 20% of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs.10,000/- per weaver, interest subvention upto 7% and credit guarantee on loans for a period of three (3) years are given.
- iv. Design Resource Centres (DRCs) have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) at Delhi, Mumbai, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati, through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers access design repositories for sample/product improvisation and development.

- v. To promote marketing of handloom products, Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) has been organizing International Fairs in virtual mode. During the year 2020-21, 12 handloom fairs were organized in virtual mode. Besides, 53 domestic marketing events were also organized in different parts of the country for the weavers to market and sell their products.

Besides, the Ministry of Textiles is also implementing the following schemes for 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 to the eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, purchase of upgraded looms & accessories, design innovation & product diversification, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products in domestic as well as overseas markets, Mudra loans at concessional rates, etc.
