

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-960
ANSWERED ON- 09/02/2024

CHALLENGES IN POWERLOOM SECTOR

960. SMT. MAUSAM NOOR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry can provide an update on the progress of the advanced stage baseline survey aimed at identifying the actual gaps in the Powerloom Sector;
- (b) the specific steps taken by the Ministry to address the challenges faced by the unorganized Poweloom Sector, such as outdated technology and inadequate capital; and
- (c) the data on the number of powerlooms and workers in the Powerloom Sector as of 2023?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a): In order to ensure thorough and exhaustive assessment of technology level, operational practices, market dynamics and socio economic aspects of the workers associated with the powerloom sector, the Textiles Committee under Ministry of Textiles has prepared the framework for baseline survey of Powerloom sector.

(b) & (c): The last baseline survey for powerloom, conducted in 2013, revealed the existence of approximately 24 lakh powerlooms, supporting a workforce of around 44 lakh individuals across the country. Based upon the recommendations/ findings of this survey, the Government had launched a scheme named PowerTex India, with an outlay of Rs. 487 crore for the period from 2017 to 2021. This initiative aimed at addressing the needs and challenges identified in the powerloom sector, through a holistic approach in order to foster growth, employment and overall development. PowerTex India has now been subsumed under Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS). The key sub-components of PowerTex India included in TCDS are (i) Group Work Shed Scheme (ii) PM Credit Scheme for Powerloom Weavers and (iii) In-situ upgradation of Powerlooms.
