

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2461
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022

LOW INCOME OF WEAVERS

2461. SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to the Handloom Census, approximately 67 per cent of the weavers still earn less than Rs.5,000 per month which is less than the amount that an unskilled worker earns as per the minimum wage rule;
- (b) whether the problem of low income has resulted in a decrease in the overall number of weavers as the existing weavers are not showing an interest in handing over the tradition to their next generations;
- (c) the remedial measures taken for welfare of handloom workers who are carrying forward India's rich cultural heritage; and
- (d) the details of the quantum of fund allocated/ utilized for welfare of weavers during the last five years and the current year?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश)
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a): Handloom Weaving is mainly an individual based household activity to which Minimum Wages Act is not applicable.

(b): Total number of household engaged in handloom activities (Weaving and Allied activities) has increased to 31,44,839 as per 4th All India Handloom Census 2019-20 compared to 3rd Handloom Census of India 2009-10 in which it was 27,83,271.

(c) & (d): To support the Handloom sector and remove the difficulties faced by the handloom weavers, the Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes across the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme;
2. Raw Material Supply Scheme;

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to the eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, common infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, Weaver MUDRA Loans etc.

The details of funds allocated/utilized under these schemes during the last five years and the current year are as follows: -

S. No.	Name of Scheme	(Rs. In Crore)											
		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23 (upto 31.10.2022)	
		allocated	utilized *	allocated	utilized	allocated	utilized	allocated	utilized	allocated	utilized	allocated	utilized
1	National Handloom Development Programme	184.74	182.87	142.08	113.82	166.71	149.14	161.49	159.53	165.50	165.37	200.00	76.43
2	Raw Material Supply Scheme	200.00	199.84	155.41	126.84	165.21	142.21	70.00	60.32	105.00	89.53	105.00	102.10

* The funds utilized/released are based on receipt of proposals from the State Governments and other Handloom organisations, and utilization of previously released funds etc.
