

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*118**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023**

**USE OF SOLAR CHARKHA BY KHADI ARTISANS**

\*118. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:  
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made/being made by the Government to generate livelihood for Khadi artisans and popularize Khadi globally;
- (b) whether the use of solar charkha would help to reduce the labour of artisans and they are likely to get better wages along with increase in production of Khadi through solar charkha;
- (c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy on making Khadi through solar charkha and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
(SHRI NARAYAN RANE)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE PARTS (a) to (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*118 FOR ANSWER ON 09.02.2023**

(a): Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has initiated several measures to support the livelihood of Khadi artisans under components of Khadi Vikas Yojana (KVY) which includes the following:

- i. Modified Marketing Development Assistance (MMDA): Under MMDA, assistance in form of incentive on 35% of the prime cost of Khadi is given to Khadi workers and institutions. The share of this assistance is 35% as incentive to the Khadi Artisans, 14% as incentive to the Karyarkartas and 51% as a share of Khadi Institutions (KIs).
- ii. Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans: Under this component, financial assistance of Rs.1,20,000/- per artisan for construction of individual workshed and Rs. 80,000/- per artisan for construction of group workshed as a grant is being provided.
- iii. Strengthening of Infrastructure of Weak Khadi Institution and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure: This component provides financial support to the Weak Khadi Institutions with assistance of Rs. 15 lakh per KI to regain normalcy. Besides, financial assistance of Rs. 25 lakh per sales outlet is also provided to KIs/Departmental Outlets for its renovation.
- iv. Artisan Welfare Fund Trust (AWFT): KIs collect 12% of Artisans' earning as their contribution and deposit the amount along with matching contribution of the KIs to the Trust for providing social security benefits to the Khadi artisans.

To popularize Khadi, following initiatives have been taken by KVIC:

- i. Under Khadi Reform and Development Programme (KRDP), 'Khadi Mark' has been launched to promote Khadi as a brand that connotes social, cultural and environmental values, besides guaranteeing the genuineness of khadi products.
- ii. Centre of Excellence for Khadi has also been set up on Hub and Spoke model with National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) New Delhi as Hub and NIFT, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Kolkata and Shillong - for establishing benchmarked design processes for global standards, creating contemporary fabrics and products for domestic and international market. In addition, focus is also on carrying out branding and publicity of new Khadi, organizing National and International Khadi fashion shows and exhibitions to increase its global reach and creating visual merchandising and packaging for Khadi products.

(b): Usage of solar power-driven charkha can increase production of Solar Vastra.

(c): 4 pilot projects have been sanctioned for production of Solar Vastra with project outlay of Rs. 20.42 cr. per project with a capital subsidy of Rs. 9.60 cr. per project.

(d): The cloth production out of yarn produced through solar charkha is kept under the category of Village Industry. Subsidy is extended on capital investment for setting up of solar charkha cluster in the form of 35% subsidy on the cost of machinery and 100% subsidy on the cost of work shed, solar grid and capacity building, up to the prescribed limit.

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