

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1005  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2006  
ARTISANS CREDIT CARD SCHEME  
Khandelwal Shri Vijay Kumar

**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

(a) Whether the Union government has fixed any target to provide financial assistance to the artisans and weavers under Artisans Credit Card Scheme; and

(b) If so, the number of beneficiaries under this Scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): A target for issuance of one lakh Artisans Credit Cards (ACCs) has been fixed to smoothen credit flow to handicraft artisans through banks. Handloom weavers are covered under Swarajgar Credit Card (SCC) scheme, which extends to other vocations as well; and a specific target for weavers has not been fixed.

(b): As reported by banks, the number of artisans covered under ACC in the country is 16,500 during 2003-04, 8,222 during 2004-05 and 43,442 during 2005-06. State-wise details are not available. Regarding coverage of handloom weavers under SCC, NABARAD does not have vocation-wise details; it has only the details of the total coverage under SCC.