

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1868  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010  
ARTISAN WELFARE FUND TRUST  
Alagiri Shri S. ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

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

- (a) the number of Artisan Welfare Fund Trusts (AWFT) set up by the KVIC in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of various activities undertaken by the AWFT;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints with regard to the working of AWFT;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total number of such complaints received during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the follow up action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

- (a): The State-wise number of Artisan Welfare Fund Trusts (AWFTs) functioning in the country, is given at Annex.
- (b): Khadi Institutions registered with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) / Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) of States / Union Territories are required to create Artisans Welfare Funds (AWFs) with a view to extending security and other help to the artisans in their hour of need Khadi institutions are required to contribute 12 per cent of wages of artisans to AWF. The benefit of the Artisans Welfare Fund is extended to all artisans except those who are salaried employees of khadi institutions. Amount accruing to AWF is kept in fixed deposits in Nationalized Banks etc. Separate accounts in respect of each artisans showing the subscriptions made by him/her together with the contribution made by the institution are maintained. Each artisans, subscribing to this fund is issued a pass book by the khadi institution. In the case of death of an artisan, the entire amount to his/her credit in AWF is paid to his/her legal heirs or nominees.
- (c) So far no complaints have been reported to be received by KVIC.
- (d) & (e) Do not arise.