

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2030
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2010
SETTING UP OF TEXTILE INSTITUTE
Bwiswmuthiary Shri Sansuma Khunggur

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to set up technical training institute related to textile sector in the tribal areas of the country particularly in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for such plan, State-wise for the current financial year;
- (c) whether the government has taken any initiatives to provide necessary Central assistance and guidance for promotion, development and export of the indigenous Bodo-Tribal handloom products and textiles made of natural fibres with special mention to Indi(Eri) Cocoons and Muga Silk; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b) : The Government of India has set up 1 Indian Institute of Handloom Technology at Guwahati and 3 Weavers Service Centres at Guwahati (Assam), Agartala (Tripura) and Imphal (Manipur). These institutions are providing assistance for technological support and skill up-gradation of weavers of Tribal areas of the country including Assam.

Central Silk Board (CSB), Ministry of Textiles has also established one Regional Silk Technological Research Station at Guwahati in Assam state to provide necessary training and support in post cocoon sector for the benefit of people of North Eastern region including the tribal areas of Assam. However, at present there is no plan to set up new technical training institute in immediate future.

(c)&(d): The Eri and Muga Silk is being produced only in North Eastern region of the country. The Government of India is implementing Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS) which provides need based inputs to a cluster of 300 – 500 handlooms or a group of 10 – 100 weavers for making them self-sustainable by providing them financial assistance for margin money, working capital, new looms and accessories, skill up-gradation, marketing opportunities and for construction of work-shed.

Under IHDS, so far 115 clusters and 184 Group approach proposals have been sanctioned in the North Eastern region and a sum of 35.93 crore has been released.

Under Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCD), two clusters with 5000 looms, one at Bijoyagar (Assam) and another at Imphal (Manipur) with a project cost of Rs.2.00 crore each are also under implementation.

Government of India has taken up one Mega Handloom Cluster under the Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) at Sivasagar in Assam with a project cost of Rs.70.00 crore for overall holistic development of about 25,000 looms.

Central Silk Board (CSB) is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz."Catalytic Development Programme" (CDP) in different states including Assam. The scheme focuses on the development of Muga and Eri culture. Central assistance provided to Assam including Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) under CDP during the last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10) is as under:

(Rs.in Lakhs)
State 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10

Assam	1,464.86	388.51	1,182.35
B.T.C.	426.66	201.95	432.59
Total	1,891.52	590.46	1,614.94

In addition, CSB has also established two Eri Spun Silk Mills, one each at Kokrajhar and Guwahati for production of high quality Eri silk yarn. Both the Units have started commercial production.

As a part of Vanya silk development programme, Vanya Silk Market Promotion Cell (VSMPC) of CSB has developed various Vanya silk products like Eri Knitwear, Muga Kancheepuram sarees, life-style products, home furnishings etc. using the tribal motifs to promote marketing of Eri and Muga silk both in the export and domestic markets for better value realization. Through Silk Mark

Organization of India (SMOI), Silk Expos are being organized by CSB in different cities to provide better marketing avenues for Muga and Eri silk produced in Assam.