

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4276

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011

IDENTITY CARDS TO WEAVERS

Gorakhnath Shri ;Jindal Shri Naveen;Patel Shri Bal Kumar

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of male and female weavers in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether identity cards have been issued to all of them and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether all the benefits of the schemes meant for the weavers are being extended to them especially the identity card holders;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of carpets exported during the last three years and the current year, country-wise and foreign exchange earned thereto;
- (f) whether new markets are being explored for export of tufted, silk and synthetic carpets and if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government proposes to set up raw material bank for providing the raw material for silk carpets and upliftment of carpet weavers in the country; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the report of Third Handloom Census (2009-10), there are total 8.48 lakh male and 29.98 female handloom weavers and allied workers across the country. 31.13 lakh Photo Identity Cards of eligible handloom weavers has been prepared and distributed to concerned State Govts. The details are given in Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): During the XI Plan, five schemes are being implemented by the Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms across the country such as i) Integrated Handloom Development Scheme, ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme, iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme and v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme. Issuance of Photo Identity Cards will ensure that benefits of schemes are being extended to the genuine handloom weavers.

(e): The exports of Handmade Carpets & other floor covering during the last three years and the current year upto July, 2011 is as under:

Year	US \$ (in million)
2008-09	600.06
2009-10	525.87
2010-11	653.86
2011-12	214.02

(upto July, 2011)

Country-wise exports of Handmade Carpets & other floor covering are at Annexure-II.

(f): Yes, Carpet Export Promotion Council is exploring new markets such as Middle East, CIS, China etc.

(g) & (h): Under "Comprehensive Handicrafts (Carpet) Cluster Development Scheme" for Srinagar Carpet Mega Cluster, Government proposes to set up 5 new Raw Material Banks (2 at Budgam, 2 at Baramullah and 1 at Srinagar) for Handmade Carpets including Silk Carpets.