

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:116
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009
WAVING OF LOANS TO HANDLOOM SECTOR
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to waive loans that were advanced to handloom sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, inter-alia indicating the number of handloom weaver who have benefited out of this scheme, till date;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to work out any action plan to help the textile industry that has been hit hard by severe competition from China; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A proposal to look at the problem of debt, which is afflicting to the handloom sector, is under consideration of Government. The Financial Package consists of a sum of Rs.3,000 crores. The proposal inter-alia includes

- (i) Cleansing of the balance sheet of Apex and Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies;
- (ii) Waiver of overdue interest and overdue loans of Weavers/PWCSs/Apex Societies;
- (iii) Financing the credit needs of handloom weavers/societies at 7% rate of interest with interest subvention.

(c) & (d): Under Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme, assistance are being provided for the promotion of handlooms exports which includes, inter alia, participation in International Fairs and Exhibitions and development of exportable handloom products.

Various export promotion schemes are also being operated by Deptt. of Commerce such as Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEBP), Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Access Initiative (MAI), Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme etc.