

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2987
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012
QUESTION RELIEF PACKAGE FOR WEAVERS
Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any relief package for weavers of the country including waiving off their loans;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether similar relief packages are also proposed for other artisans of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b): In the Budget 2011-12, the Finance Minister had announced that the Government of India would provide Rs.3000 crore for implementing the financial package for handloom sector for waiver of overdue loans on all India basis through NABARD. Consequent to the said Budget announcement, the "Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package for Handloom Sector" has been approved with a total financial implication of Rs. 3884 crore, out of which Government of India's share is Rs. 3137 crore and the share of the State Governments is Rs. 747 crore. The Package covers loan waiver of 100% of principal and 25% of interest, which is overdue as on 31.03.2010 in respect of handloom weavers and their societies, with the balance interest to be written off by the Banks. An interest subsidy of 3% for 3 years is provided for fresh loans extended by banks to the eligible handloom cooperative societies and individual handloom weavers with guarantee cover for such fresh loans.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Textiles has informed that no relief package is proposed for other artisans of the country.