

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3673

ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012

TRADITIONAL HANDLOOM CLUSTERS

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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of traditional handloom clusters in the country including Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar along with the number of people dependent for their livelihood on there handloom clusters in these States; and

(b) the details of financial and technological support being provided by the Union Government for the socioeconomic development of these clusters during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): During XI Plan, based on the recommendation of State Government concerned and availability of funds, the Government of India has sanctioned 610 Clusters and 2248 Group Approach Projects under Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS) to various States, including Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. In addition, 20 clusters each having about 5000 handlooms in different States, including 3 Clusters in Tamil Nadu, 4 clusters in Uttar Pradesh and 1 Cluster in Bihar have been sanctioned. Further, 4 mega handloom clusters have been sanctioned for Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Sivasagar (Assam), Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu) and Murshidabad (West Bengal). Approximately 5.50 lakh weavers are dependent on these clusters.

Ministry of Textiles is providing need based inputs to weavers in these Clusters for making them self sustainable by providing them financial assistance for margin money, new looms and accessories, skill up-gradation, design development, Corpus Fund for Yarn supply, Setting up of Common Facility Centre/Dye House, construction of Worksheds. A statement showing State-wise number of Clusters, Group Approach Projects sanctioned and financial assistance released during the last three years is annexed.