

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:599

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012

PROJECTS TO PROMOTE TEXTILE WORKERS

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**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for textile workers including powerloom and garments in the country to improve their working conditions and low wages of the employees working in the said profession;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to ameliorate the pitiable working conditions of the workers engaged in the said professions?

**Answer**

(MINISTER OF TEXTILES) (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) to (c): Government of India is implementing following schemes for improving the working and economic conditions of Textiles workers of different sector:-

(i) Government is implementing Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) for providing relief to the textile workers rendered unemployed owing to permanent closure of entire/partial textile unit in the private sector to enable them to settle in another employment.

(ii) Government is implementing Group Insurance Scheme for the Powerloom workers in association with LIC. Under the scheme, the powerloom workers are required to pay premium of only Rs. 80/- against the total premium of Rs. 330/- per worker per annum. The balance is paid by Govt and LIC to the tune of Rs.150/- and Rs.100 respectively. The scheme provides for payment of Rs.60,000/- in the event of natural death, Rs.1.50 lakhs in case of accidental death or permanent disability and Rs.75,000/- in case of partial disability. Besides this, the insured Powerloom worker is also eligible for educational assistance @Rs.100/- per month per child, for two children for a period of four years from Standard IX to XII.

(iii) Government of India has introduced the scheme for development of skills of the workers in all segments of textiles including garment and powerlooms. This scheme has been introduced with the objective of giving proper training so that the workers can get employment and earn more wage than the wage of un-skilled workers.

(iv) Government is implementing two separate schemes viz. the Health Insurance Scheme (HIS) for providing Health Insurance to the Handloom weavers and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) for providing Life Insurance Cover in case of natural/accidental death, total/partial disability due to accident.

Total benefits worth Rs.15,000 are available to 4 members of the family under the Health Insurance Scheme, out of which upto 50% provision of Rs.7,500 is for OPD.

Under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, life insurance cover is provided for Handloom weavers and ancillary workers. Besides this, the insured Handloom worker is eligible for Scholarships of Rs.300/- (per quarter per child) to children studying in Class IX to XII.

(v) Government is implementing 'Health Insurance Scheme under the Centrally sponsored Catalytic Development Programme for the exclusive benefit of Women sericulturists through the Central Silk Board. The insurance premium of Rs. 767.28 per beneficiary is being shared among Govt. of India, State and beneficiary at 75:15:10 basis. The scheme covers not only the women as the prime insurer but also her husband and two children (1+3), covering all pre-existing diseases as well as keeping substantial provision for Out Patient Department (OPD), upto a maximum of Rs.15,000/- per year.