

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1604
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012
SUICIDES BY WEAVERS
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the large number of weavers and their families are committing suicides due to various reasons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to announce financial and debt-waiver packages to weavers in the Twelfth Five Year Plan period to stop such suicides?

Answer

(MINISTER OF TEXTILES) (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) & (b) No State Government except the Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported suicides by Weavers. Andhra Pradesh Govt. has reported 45 suicides by weavers in the current calendar year i.e. 2012 due to several reasons such as family disturbances, hike in yarn prices, financial and other domestic problems.

(c) In order to clear the choked credit lines of handloom sector, the Government has approved a Financial Package for loan waiver for handloom sector. It includes one-time waiver of overdue loans and interest of eligible handloom cooperative societies and individual weavers as on 31st March, 2010. Further, to enable handloom weavers to access the subsidized credit, the Government has approved Weavers Credit Card and is providing margin money assistance @ Rs.4200/- per weaver, 3% interest subvention and credit guarantee to such loan by CGTMSE. For the overall and holistic development of handloom sector, the Government of India is also implementing following five plan schemes:-

- i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS)
- ii) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- iii) Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme (MEPS)
- iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme
- v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme