

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2648

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

HANDICRAFT SECTOR

Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Jahan Kaisar ;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of handicraft products in the country has declined during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with production of handicraft items during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has implemented Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme for providing health insurance cover to aartisan's families;
- (d) if so, the details therof and the number of such artisans benefited during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (e) whether any Grievance Redressal Committee has been formed to resove the grievances regarding settlement of cliaims for artisans and their family members;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the share of hand woven textiles in the textile industries, State-wise particularly Uttar Pradesh along with the steps taken by the Government for their promotion?

Answer

(MINISTER OF TEXTILES) (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) & (b) : No, Madam. The estimated production of handicrafts during the last three years and current year is as under:

Sl.No. Years Production (Rs. In crores)

1.	2009-10	14531.54
2.	2010-11	17556.60
3.	2011-12	21625.41
4.	2012-13	13561.76

(up to Oct., 2012)

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Under Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, the Government is implementing the Rajiv Gandhi Shilipi Swasthya Bima Yojana (RGSSBY) for providing health and insurance cover to the artisans family. The details of artisans benefitted under this scheme during the last three years and current year, State-wise, is as per Annexure-I.

(e) & (f): Yes Madam. The Grievances Redressal Committees have been formed in all States headed by a Chairman nominated by the Insurance Companies and duly represented by an officer of Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) and a representative nominated by the Insurance Companies.

(g): The handloom sector being an unorganized sector, the data of State-wise production of handloom cloth is not being maintained. The handloom cloth production vis-À-vis powerloom and mill sector during last 3 years are as under:

(Mn. Sq. mtrs)

Year Handloom Powerloom Mill Sector Total % Handloom Production

2009-10	6806	36997	2016	45819	14.85
2010-11	6907	38015	2205	47127	14.66
2011-12 (Prov.)	6900	37387	2313	46600	14.81

For overall development of handloom sector, the Government of India is implementing following Plan Schemes:-

- i) Integrated handlooms Development Scheme.
- ii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
- iii) Market and Export Promotion Scheme.
- iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme.
- v) Diversified handloom Development scheme.

The Government has also taken following steps for handloom sector:

- i) 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.
- ii) 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.
- iii) To ensure the availability cheap yarn to handloom weavers in order to compete with powerlooms and mill sector, the Government is providing 10% price subsidy on cotton and silk yarn to handlooms weavers and their Cooperative Societies.