

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2614
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013
CENSUS OF ARTISANS
Karunakaran Shri P.;Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the census of Kumhar (potter) has been held in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to such artisans during the last three years, scheme-wise;
- (d) whether the cases of weavers/ artisans' deaths have been reported during the last three years in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government to ensure a dignified life for the artisans/weavers involved in textile weaving?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The current census of handicrafts artisans including Kumhar (potter) of Odisha is still in progress. The number of artisans of potter of Odisha shall only be known once the census is completed.

(c): The schemes of the government for promotion & development of handicraft in the country do not envisage any direct financial assistance to artisans.

The schemes envisage providing of financial assistance to Implementing Agencies viz State Handicrafts Corporations/Apex Societies/NGOs etc. for the promotion & development of handicrafts and the details of financial assistance provided to these Implementing Agencies under various schemes including potters of Odisha during the last three years is as per Annexure-I

(d): Yes, Madam. Death cases of weavers have been reported by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. However in case of artisans no death case have been reported.

(e): The reasons for suicide cases in case of weavers is due to poverty, family disturbance, financial and other domestic problems. The number of such cases reported during the last three years are as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	Number of deaths
1.	2010	50
2.	2011	46
3.	2012	45

The step taken by the Government to ensure a dignified life for artisans/weavers and for overall development of handicrafts and handloom is by way of implementation of various schemes. The scheme are:-

For Handicraft Sector:-

i. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY). ii. Marketing & Support Service Scheme, iii. Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme, iv. Research and Development Scheme, v. Human Resource Development Scheme, vi. Handicrafts Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

For Handloom Sector:-

i. Integrated Handloom Development Scheme. ii. Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme. iii. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. iv. Mill Gate Price Scheme. v. Diversified Handloom Development Scheme. vi. Revival Reform and Restructuring Package (RRR).