

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:166
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
HANDICRAFT CLUSTERS SCHEMES
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Tandon Shri Lal Ji

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up handicraft clusters in the country including silk based handicrafts in Gujarat and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of exports of handicrafts including hand-made carpets during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT/country-wise;
- (c) the share of export of Indian handicraft in the world market and the steps taken by the Government to increase the market share of Indian handicraft products in the international market;
- (d) the number of artisans in the country as per the census held recently, State/UTwise; and
- (e) the details of incentives/new schemes formulated for promotion of handicrafts/artisans in the country along with the funds allocated/utilised, scheme/ State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (DR. KAVURU SAMBASIVA RAO)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 166 for answer on 19.8.2013.

(a): Yes Madam. The Government proposes to set up 120 handicrafts cluster in the country including in the State of Gujarat during the current financial year. The details of crafts and locations will be decided on the basis of proposals received and budget available.

(b): The details of export of handicraft including hand-made carpets during each of the last three years country-wise is as per Annexure-I. For the current year the export data, country-wise, is yet to be compiled. The total export of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpet during the current year is Rs.7058.70 crores (upto July 2013).

The State/UT-wise export data of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpet is not maintained.

(c): As reported by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and Carpet Export Promotion Council, the share of Indian handicrafts excluding handmade carpet and other floor coverings in Global trade of handicrafts is less than 2% whereas the share of Indian handmade Carpets in Global Market is 29.65%.

The steps taken by the Government to increase the market share of Indian handicraft products in the international market are as under:-

Participations in fairs/exhibitions abroad.

Thematic display and live demonstration of crafts in exhibitions abroad.

Organizing buyer-seller meets in India and abroad.

Brand image promotion of Indian handicrafts abroad through seminars and publicity as well as awareness programmes about technology, packaging, policies in India to exporters.

Organizing Indian Handicrafts & Gifts Fair twice a year besides product specific shows.

Providing participation under assistance of MDA/MAI Scheme of Ministry of Commerce to Exporter Members.

(d): The current census of handicrafts artisans is still in progress. The State/UTs-wise number of handicrafts artisans in the country shall only be known once the census is completed. However, based on the existing census undertaken so far, the number of handicrafts artisans has been estimated at 68.68 lakhs.

(e): Government is implementing the following six schemes for the development and promotion of handicrafts artisans in the country:-

- i. Baba Sahib 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.

The details of funds released scheme-wise/State-wise during 2012-13 is enclosed at Annexure-II.

In addition to above, Infrastructure and Technology Development Scheme has also been proposed during 12th Plan, with a provision of Rs.243.37 crores for the entire 12th Plan.

In addition to above, four Mega Carpet Clusters at Bhadohi-Mirzapur, Moradabad (UP) Narsapur (Andhra Pradesh) and other in Srinagar (J&K) has also been sanctioned.