

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:530  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013  
WEAVING INDUSTRY  
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the weavers engaged in traditional weaving industry have become unemployed due to increase in production cost/power tariff in the country.
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide electricity at concessional rate and loan from banks to the weavers in country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): No Madam. However, handloom weavers are facing hardship in carrying out their livelihood on handloom alone due to low productivity, stiff competition with power loom and mill sector, marketing and infrastructural constraints and non-availability of adequate credit from banks. In this regard, the Government of India has been implementing various handloom schemes and programmes for development of handloom industry and welfare of weavers. These programmes have supported the handloom weavers by providing yarn at cheaper rates, dyes & chemicals, credit, technology up-gradation, designs, skill up-gradation, marketing etc. Further, the continuous efforts in Research & Development have also resulted in reducing drudgery of the handloom weavers to some extent and improving their productivity.

(c) & (d): The Government of India provides concessional loan at 6% interest rate to handloom weavers by providing interest subvention for 3 years subject to maximum 7%, margin money assistance and credit guarantee to loans extended by banks through Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE). The Government of India does not provide electricity at concessional rate to handloom weavers.