

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1118  
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014  
HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOM INDUSTRIES  
Yadav Shri Jay Prakash Narayan

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

- (a) whether the minority communities in various states including Bihar are engaged in Handicraft and Handloom Industries and if so, the details thereof. State/union Territory-wise;
- (b) whether such industries are on the verge of closure in various States including Bihar and if so, the details thereof. State/union Territory-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan for providing easy credit facility to such small entrepreneurs of minority communities engaged in such Industries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

- a): Yes Sir, the statement in respect of Handicrafts sector and Handloom sector showing State/union Territory-wise details is at Annexure- I and Annexure-II respectively.
- (b): As far as Handicraft sector is concerned, no such information has been received by Government. In regard to Handloom sector, there has been reduction over the years in number of handlooms. As per handloom census of 1995-96, the total number of handlooms was 34.87 lakh in the country whereas during 2009-10, their numbers were reduced to 23.77 lakh. State/UTs-wise details are at Annexure-III. This reduction is primarily due to the reason that Handloom sector as a whole is facing many constraints/challenges throughout the country such as low productivity, stiff competition from powerloom and mill sector, inadequate marketing facilities/channels as well as insufficient credit flow from institutional sources.
- (c) & (d): Yes Sir, the Government has introduced the following two Schemes to provide easy credit facility to handicrafts artisans and Handloom weavers:-
- i. Credit Guarantee Scheme.
  - ii. Interest Subvention Scheme.