

Title: Need to ensure minimum wages to handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu - Laid.

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (ARAKKONAM) : Sir, there are lakhs and lakhs of handloom weavers who are working in the State of Tamil Nadu, particularly in the silk town of Kancheerpuram, Arakkonam, Cheyyar, Walaji, where they are not getting minimum wages, despite agreement made between Handloom Weavers Union and the contractors. More than one lakh handloom weavers families are affected by the non-payment of agreed wages by the contractors. They are in pathetic conditions requiring the attention of the Central Government. They should be given free electricity as being given to farmers.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government, particularly the hon. Minister of Textiles to look into the matter and to take appropriate action to save the handloom weavers and their families from starvation and to ensure minimum wages to them.