

96 **COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2018-2019)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

NINETY-SIXTH REPORT

REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES
PERTAINING TO THE MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 12.2.2019)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

February, 2019/Magha, 1940 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2018-2019)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank” — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri Tariq Anwar
5. Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
7. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A. T. (Nana) Patil
11. Shri C. R. Patil
12. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
13. Shri K.C. Venugopal
14. Shri S.R. Vijayakumar
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

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| 1. Shri N.C. Gupta | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2018 *vide* Para No. 7305 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 10 September, 2018.

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| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2017 *vide* Para No. 5800 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 18 September, 2017.

** Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No. 6261 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 08 January, 2018 *vice* Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty resigned on 02 January, 2018.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2018-2019), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Ninety-sixth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018) at their sitting held on 11 July, 2018 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles regarding some of the pending Assurances from the 8th Session of the 15th Lok Sabha to the 4th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha.

3. At their sitting held on 11 Feb., 2019, the Committee considered and adopted their Ninety-sixth Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this Report.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
11 February, 2019
22 Magha, 1940 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

REPORT

I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises, undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfilment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department are unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department are bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-10) took a policy decision to call the representatives of the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-2015) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through them.

4. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018) called the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and examined the following 8 pending Assurances

(Appendices — I to IX) pertaining to the Ministry at their sitting held on 11 July, 2018:—

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 3123 dated 31.07.2014	National Textile Policy (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 1842 dated 04.12.2014	Handicraft Sector (Appendix-II)
3.	USQ No. 645 dated 26.02.2015	National Textile Policy 2015 (Appendix-III)
4.	USQ No. 2700 dated 12.03.2015	Hastakala Academy (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 2717 dated 12.03.2015	Opening of Research Centres (Appendix-V)
6.	USQ No. 3773 dated 19.03.2015	Review/Evaluation of Textile Industry (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 6787 dated 07.05.2015	New National Textile Policy (Appendix-VII)
8.	USQ No. 6821 dated 07.05.2015	National Policy for Handicrafts (Appendix-VIII)

5. The Extracts from Manual of Practice and Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfilment, dropping/deletion and extension, the procedure for fulfilment, etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-IX.

6. During Oral Evidence, the Committee drew the attention of the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles to the long pendency in the fulfilment of the above 8 Assurances and desired to know as to whether the Ministry have prepared any network wherein a review meeting is held in an interval of 15 or 20 days at the level of the Joint Secretary or Additional Secretary or Secretary or the Hon'ble Minister for the appraisal of pending Assurances. The Secretary, Ministry of Textiles in his deposition before the Committee stated during evidence as under:—

"Sir, I undertake meeting of senior officers on alternate Tuesday in which Assurances form a permanent item. These sitting are held every 15 days and every time Assurances form an important part of it."

7. Subsequently, three Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1, 3 and 7 have since been implemented on 18.12.2018 and the Assurance mentioned at Sl. No. 2 has been partly implemented on 04.05.2016. The two Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 4 and 5 have also been partly implemented on 10.08.2016.

Observations/Recommendations

8. The Committee note that out of the 08 Assurances of the Ministry of Textiles taken up by them, the Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1, 3 and 7 have since been implemented while the Assurance mentioned at Sl. No. 2 has been partly implemented on 04.05.2016. Further, the Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 4 and 5 have also been partly implemented on 10.08.2016 and the remaining 2 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 6 and 8 are still pending even after a lapse of more than 3 years. The delay in implementation of Assurances indicate that monitoring, review and follow-up action taken on Assurances need to be further strengthened in the Ministry. The Committee view that textile is a core sector of the country and protection, promotion and nurturing of the textile industry and handicrafts are crucial for the country not only owing to its substantial contribution in labour absorption, employment generation and earning foreign exchange but also due to their symbolisation with the country's rich heritage and legacy. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the existing mechanism in the Ministry be streamlined with a view to ensuring expeditious implementation of the pending Assurances. The Committee hope and trust that the Ministry will adopt a proactive approach and scale up coordination with all concerned for speedy implementation of the rest of the pending Assurances.

II. Review of Pending Assurance pertaining to the Ministry of Textiles

9. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with some of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry and critically examined by them.

A. Handicraft Sector

- (i) USQ No. 1842 dated 04.12.2014 regarding 'Handicraft Sector' (Appendix-II)
- (ii) USQ No. 2700 dated 12.03.2015 regarding 'Hastakala Academy' (Appendix-IV)
- (iii) USQ No. 2717 dated 12.03.2015 regarding 'Opening of Research Centres' (Appendix-V)

10. In replies to the above Questions, it was stated that the Government proposes to set up a Hastakala Academy at New Delhi to support preservation, revival, archiving and documenting of the handlooms and handicrafts. The academy will also undertake the work relating to research and development. It was further stated that EFC has discussed the project at a cost of Rs. 30 crore in its meeting held on 13.02.2015. The role of private sector will be decided once the contribution starts coming from them. However draft minutes of the meeting has been submitted for approval.

11. In their Status Note furnished in July 2018, the Ministry of Textiles elucidated the position in this regard as under:—

"Modified Cabinet note was submitted to Cabinet Secretariat *vide* letter dated 01.01.2018. Cabinet Secretariat returned the note with observation to consult Department of Expenditure, NITI Aayog and DoP&T Consultations have been made with Department of Expenditure, NITI Aayog and DOP&T Department of Expenditure has suggested to rename the National Handicraft and Handloom Museum as Hastakala Academy and Museum, to re-design the scope and functions of advisory committee and necessary financial support may be provided to National Handicraft and Handloom Museum, a subordinate office of Ministry of Textiles as Hastakala Academy.

The matter has been again taken up with Ministry of Finance for their concurrence to establish the Hastakala Academy. NITI Aayog has also been pursued for their comments."

12. During oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Textiles apprised the Committee of the following position with regard to the fulfilment of the Assurances as under:—

"The Ministry have taken various steps to revive the handicraft sector. First of all, the attention is drawn to endangered crafts. We have a scheme under which pension is provided to impoverished craftsman engaged in endangered arts. Since these crafts involve Guru Shishya parampara and are usually passed from parents to children, earlier the scheme had a condition that one cannot give training to his/her own children. Now we have relaxed this condition. We have identified 34-35 crafts and have decided to educate new generation about these arts to keep them alive. Earlier, awards were given to different handicrafts which were well established but, now we have made arrangement that award is given to the protected crafts out of 34 endangered crafts. All the schemes related to handicraft sector have been there on the Ministry's website and all the arrangements for tools, raw materials, designs, training and common facilities are made accordingly. However, it was observed that when we used to implement these schemes through NGOs, they used to expect returns through them. Although the schemes had an arrangements of the return, these were for a specific period. Realising that NGOs lose interest in schemes after 3-4 years, we decided to make arrangements to open our own centres in co-ordination with various States. Previously we used to hold sitting of Textile sector in general but this time we did not take textile as a whole but focussed on handloom and handicraft. We realised that unless and until the manpower will get to the clusters of people, its impact will not be that much. Earlier there were 65 officers. Now some new officers have also been recruited. We have appointed each of these 65 officers as independent incharges of these clusters to review and inspect the work carried out there through the NGOs or State Governments or the Central Government. We

hope that now, after executing the schemes in a focused way, we would be able to implement the schemes more effectively. The same has been done in the handloom sector."

13. He further added as under:—

We have a scheme called "free supply of yarn" wherein yarn is provided at Mill gate price and 10 per cent subsidy is also given. It was surprising that earlier only 1.2 lakh out of 42 lakh weavers were given the individuals benefits under the scheme. We overhauled the system and now allocation of yarn is made as per percentage of weavers in the State so that the benefit reaches maximum number of weavers. Moreover, we have started making allocations to the States so that weavers' interests are protected. Further, in addition to the identity cards, we have started a scheme to provide passbooks so that they can get the yarn conveniently from the State Governments. Warehouse facilities have been extended from 8 States to all the States in the country. Arrangements have been made to provide a depot to each and every cluster. In addition to this, we have a promotional scheme for weavers under which 90 per cent grant is provided by the Government and only 10 per cent amount is required to be contributed by the weaver. Additionally, we make sure that whenever handloom or training is provided, the weavers also get the corresponding equipment so that they can reap maximum benefit out of those tools. Some people had complaints about favouritism. As it is not possible for the Governments to reach 42 lakh weavers, the Government has set priorities to train senior weavers who in turn will train others. In this way we have been trying to carry the Governments schemes to each and every weaver in a just and equitable manner.

14. Elaborating on the issue, the Secretary, Ministry of Textiles continued as under:—

"In the year 2014 when the Finance Minister announced in Budget Session about the constitution of the scheme in PPP mode, an effort was made to set up a corpus of 500 crores and to fund this Institution. For this work communications were sent to 9 Navratna companies and 65 Corporate Houses. However, their response was not satisfactory. After exhausting all the options, a CCA Note for 100 crore was prepared on 18.07.2014 in which Government of India's contribution was Rs 30 crore. When the CCA Note was circulated, a suggestion came from the Finance Ministry that since the modalities of earlier scheme were different, an EFC was again required to be prepared under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Expenditure. The Department again prepared an EFC note and circulated the Draft Cabinet Note. Subsequently the Ministry received observations by the PMO and it was decided that irrespective of the poor response, the efforts will continue to be made to seek private partnership. Later on, a suggestion was received that since this model was not likely to work, we should consult the NITI Ayog. It was suggested that since we already have a National Craft Museum wherein we allot space to craftsmen

where people can watch them making things. They suggested that instead of taking separate Government land for setting up a National Craft Museum, it would be better to utilise the existing National Craft Museum for the purpose. Keeping the above suggestion in mind, a CCA Note was prepared after modifying the EFC note. A proposal was prepared to set up the Hastakala Academy in the Craft Museum. The Hastakala Academy is a subordinate office. It is not proper to establish an academic institution in a subordinate office. We established a society and tried subsume the subordinate office in that so that the administrative work can be done by the Society and we will keep a separate specialist for the academic work. Its Secretary will be appointed by His Excellency the President."

15. The Committee then specifically asked as to what would be the name of the proposed institute. In reply, the Secretary, Ministry of Textiles submitted during evidence as under:—

"Sir, it has been named as Hastakala Academy".

16. When the Committee pointed out that eventually the Ministry would have to go before the Finance Department, the Secretary, Ministry of Textiles elucidated as under:—

"Sir, we have got the acceptance of the Finance Department for the expenditure. Only question that remains is of modalities."

17. On being enquired about whether the Ministry have received any reply from NITI Aayog, the Secretary, Textiles replied as under:—

"Sir, we have not yet received any reply."

Observations/Recommendations

18. The Committee note that three Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Textiles regarding setting up of a Hastakala Academy at New Delhi has been pending for about four years. The core idea of having the Academy is to support preservation, revival and documenting of the handlooms and handicrafts as well as to undertake the work relating to research and development. This will be crucial for protecting/reviving the handloom and handicraft sector and improving the working conditions and standard of living of weavers and craftsmen. Needless to emphasize, the country is famous for its rich heritage of arts and crafts and holds the top rank amongst the culturally rich countries across the world and the same is reflected in its textiles and handicrafts well known for their fine quality and exquisite craftsmanship. However, in the new era of industrialisation, these skills are fast becoming either neglected or extinct and need to be saved and kept alive. The Committee are of the view that by setting up the proposed Hastakala Academy, the Government can support, preserve, revive and develop the handloom and handicraft sector. The Committee appreciate that a slew of good works has been done by the Ministry for the benefit and welfare of the weavers and craftsmen. However, the fundamental issue of setting up the Hastakala Academy has been caught in a quagmire wherein the support/approval of the Ministry of Finance and

NITI Aayog is required but the same is awaited. The Committee would like the Ministry to take up the matter at the highest level in coordination with all the stakeholders including the Ministry of Finance and NITI Aayog so that a well informed and final decision is taken in the matter and the Assurance is fulfilled at the earliest. Observing that a lot of work has been done in the matter, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to furnish a Part Implementation Report of the Assurance detailing the steps taken and achievements made so far in their efforts to fulfil the Assurance.

III. Implementation Reports

19. As per the Statements of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the Assurances given in reply to the following 03 USQs have since been laid on the Table of the House on the dates as mentioned against each:

Sl.No.	Sl.No. in the Table (Para No.4)	SQ/USQ No. dated	Date of Implementation
(i)	Sl. No. 01	USQ No. 3123 dated 31.07.2014 regarding 'National Textile Policy'	18.12.2018
(ii)	Sl. No. 03	USQ No. 645 dated 26.02.2015 regarding 'National Textile Policy 2015'	18.12.2018
(iii)	Sl. No. 07	USQ No. 6787 dated 07.05.2015 regarding 'New National Textile Policy'	18.12.2018

NEW DELHI;
11 February, 2019
 22 Magha, 1940 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK"
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

APPENDIX I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3123

ANSWERED ON 31.07.2014

National Textile Policy

3123. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:
SHRIRAVNEET SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed a new National Textile Policy with an objective to develop a vision statement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be introduced?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) & (b) No, Madam. The Government has constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitive Council for reviewing Textile Policy 2000 and formulating a new National Textile Policy.

(c) The Expert Committee has submitted a draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan.

APPENDIX II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1842

ANSWERED ON 04.12.2014

Handicraft Sector

1842. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to make the handicraft sector competitive in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to set up research centres for the development of handicraft market; and

(d) if so, the places selected for setting up the research centres and the time by which the said centres are likely to be set up?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) & (b) Yes Madam. The Government is implementing following schemes for promotion of handicrafts, including making the sector competitive in international market:-

- (i) Baba Saheb Hastshilp Vikas Yojana
- (ii) Design and technology upgradation scheme
- (iii) Marketing support and services scheme
- (iv) Research and development scheme
- (v) Human and resource development scheme
- (vi) Handicrafts artisans comprehensive welfare scheme
- (vii) Infrastructure and technology development scheme

(c) & (d) The Government proposes to set up a Hastakala Academy at New Delhi to support preservation, revival, archiving and documenting of the handlooms and handicrafts. The academy will also undertake the work relating to research and development.

APPENDIX III

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 645

ANSWERED ON 26.02.2015

National Textile Policy 2015

645. SHRI HARI MANJHI:
SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA:
SHRI C. MAHENDRAN: .

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to unveil National Textile Policy 2015 with a view to boost the textile sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new Textile Policy would also cover the Jute industry and raw material;

(d) if not, whether any new policy is to be launched in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to enhance India's share in the global market for textiles?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (f) Yes Madam. Ministry of Textiles had constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council for reviewing the Textile Policy 2000. The Expert Committee has since submitted a draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan. The draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan *inter-alia* covers recommendations in respect of the jute industry also. The National Textile Policy 2015 is currently under process.

The Government has been taking a number of policy measures and export incentives to boost India's share in global exports. To enhance India's share in the Global market for textiles, Government has launched several initiatives namely Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Development of

Technical textiles, Schemes for the Development of the Handloom, Handicraft and Powerloom Sectors, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT), Schemes for promoting the usage of Agrotextiles and Geotextiles etc.

Government also implements several export promotion measures including incentives under Focus Market Scheme and Focus Product Scheme; enhancing the coverage of Market Linked Focus Product Scheme for textile products to increase India's share in various countries, Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme, Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme, Duty Drawback Scheme, Advance License Scheme and Duty-free import of trimmings, embellishments and other specified items.

APPENDIX IV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2700

ANSWERED ON 12.03.2015

Hastakala Academy

2700. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Hastakala Academy for the preservation, revival and documentation of the handloom, handicraft sector in PPP mode in Delhi was set up as announced in the previous budget; and

(b) if so, the present status of the project?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) EFC has discussed the project at a cost of Rs.30 crores in its meeting held on 13.02.2015. The role of private sector will be decided once the contribution starts coming from them. However draft minutes of the meeting has been submitted for approval.

APPENDIX V

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2717

ANSWERED ON 12.03.2015

Opening of Research Centres

2717. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open a research centre for development of handicraft market in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the places identified for opening research centres including the time by which these centres are likely to be opened; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for making the handicrafts competitive in the international market?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Madam, The Government has initiated a proposal for establishment of a Hastakala Academy at New Delhi in which research work on development of handicrafts will be undertaken.

(b) The EFC has discussed the project at a cost of Rs. 30.00 crore in its meeting on 13.02.2015. The draft minutes of the meeting are under submission.

(c) The Government has been implementing the following seven generic schemes for making the handicraft competitive in the International Market:—

- (i) Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastashilp Yikas Yojana (AHVY)
- (ii) Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme
- (iii) Marketing Support and Services Scheme
- (iv) Research and Development Scheme
- (v) Human and Resource Development Scheme
- (vi) Handicrafts Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme for Handicrafts Artisans and
- (vii) Infrastructure and Technology Development Scheme

APPENDIX VI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3773

ANSWERED ON 19.03.2015

Review/Evaluation of Textile Industry

3773. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a high level committee for reviewing/evaluating the performance of the textile industry;

(b) if so, the details of observations/ recommendations made by the committee and the corrective measures being taken by the Government;

(c) the details of infrastructural assistance provided by the Government for promotion and development of textile industry during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the details of schemes launched for employment generation in the textile industry; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for increasing the export share of Indian garments in the international market and for finding markets for export of textiles in view of the rising competition from the neighbouring countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) & (b) Yes Madam Ministry of Textiles had constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council for reviewing the Textile Policy 2000. The Expert Committee has since submitted its recommendations and the same are under process.

(c) Government of India provides infrastructural assistance to the textile industry through its various schemes. The details of funds released/ expenditure incurred under various plan schemes during the last three years (2011-12 to 2013-14) and the current year (2014-15) is at Annexure I.

(d) In order to facilitate employment generation in the textile industry, Government has taken policy initiatives and has launched various schemes like Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Development of Technical Textiles, Scheme for the Development of the Handloom, Handicraft and Powerloom Sectors, Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT), Scheme for promoting the usage of Agrotextiles and Geotextiles etc.

(e) The Government has taken a number of steps to enhance India's exports of garments in the global market and tap new markets in view of rising competition of peer countries. Some of Export Incentive Schemes for textiles are given below:—

- (i) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme
- (ii) Focus Market Scheme
- (iii) Focus Product Scheme
- (iv) Market Linked Focus Product Scheme
- (v) Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme.
- (vi) Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme
- (vii) Duty Drawback Scheme
- (viii) Advance Licence Scheme
- (ix) Duty-free import of trimmings, embellishments and other specified item

ANNEXURE I

Detail of assistance for last three years & current year

(Rs. in Crore)

Sr. No.	Scheme/Sector	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		Actual Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual Expenditure (as on 3.02.2015)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Handloom	599.01	737.93	550.00	374.96
2.	Handicrafts	174.7	162.26	142.13	72.76
3.	Wool & Wollens	12.92	13.51	16.66	15.01
4.	Sericulture/Silk	313	258	374.55	253.09
5.	Powerlooms	12.68	12.57	13.09	34.47
6.	Megacluster	36.5	23.38	38.75	29.57
	Industry Schemes including Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Schemes (ISDS) and North East Region Textile Promotion				
7.	Scheme (NERTPS)	3110.73	2419.73	2029.78	1997.12

APPENDIX VII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6787

ANSWERED ON 07.05.2015

New National Textile Policy

6787. SHRI C.S. PUTTARAJU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Expert Committee to formulate a new National Textile Policy;

(b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof;

(c) the manner in which it is likely to be beneficial in comparison to the existing policy; and

(d) the extent to which the new policy would be fabric neutral unlike the present one which is in favour of cotton?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Yes Madam. Ministry of Textiles had constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council for reviewing the Textile Policy 2000. The Expert Committee has since submitted a draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan. The draft policy covering relevant issues is under finalization.

APPENDIX VIII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6821

ANSWERED ON 07.05.2015

National Policy for Handicrafts

6821. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any National Policy for handicraft sector, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is implementing schemes for the promotion and development of handicraft sector and to have plans for women employers in this sector with a view to provide social and financial assistance to them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Madam. The Government proposes to formulate a new National Textile Policy, which will also cover handicrafts sector.

(b) & (c) Yes, Madam. The Government implement following seven generic schemes for the promotion and development of Handicraft sector, including women:

- i. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana.
- ii. Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme.
- iii. Marketing Support Services Scheme.
- iv. Research & Development Scheme.
- v. Human Resource Development Scheme.
- vi. Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
- vii. Infrastructure Technological Development Scheme

These schemes are gender neutral and benefits are available equally to women also.

APPENDIX IX

(Vide Para 5 of the Report)

EXTRACTS FROM MANUAL OF PRACTICE & PROCEDURE IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, NEW DELHI

Definition	<p>8.1 During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute Assurances and as approved by the Committees on Government Assurances of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is given at Annexure 3. As Assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance in these terms.</p> <p>8.2 When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the department concerned normally within 10 working days of the date on which it is given.</p>
Deletion from the list of Assurances	<p>8.3.1 If the administrative department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfil it, it may write to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat direct with a copy to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs within a week of the receipt of such communication for getting it deleted from the list of Assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister.</p> <p>8.3.2 Departments should make request for dropping of Assurances immediately on receipt of statement of Assurances from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and only in rare cases where they are fully convinced that the Assurances could not be implemented under any circumstances and there is no option left with them but to make a request for dropping. Such requests should have the approval of their Minister and this fact should be indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of the stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a</p>

	request for extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till a decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is received by them. Copy of the above communications should be simultaneously endorsed to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Time limit for fulfilling an assurance	8.4.1 An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This time limit has to be strictly observed.
Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance	8.4.2 If the department finds that it is not possible to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time direct from the respective Committee on Government Assurances under intimation to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required. Such a communication should be issued with the approval of the Minister.
Registers of Assurances	8.5.1 The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the department concerned in a register as at Annexure 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section. 8.5.2 Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfil such Assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annexure 5 . 8.5.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Assurances, entries therein being made session-wise.
Role of Section Officer and Branch Officer	8.6.1 The Section Officer incharge of the concerned section will: (a) scrutinise the registers once a week; (b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever; (c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise; drawing his special attention to Assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and (d) review of pending Assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimise the delay in implementing the Assurances. 8.6.2 The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of Assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.

<p>Procedure for fulfilment of an assurance</p>	<p>8.7.1 Every effort should be made to fulfil the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an implementation report containing the available information should be supplied to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in part scrutinize of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.</p> <p>8.7.2 Information to be supplied in partial or complete fulfilment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned and 15 copies thereof (bilingual) in the prescribed proforma as at Annexure 6, together with its enclosures, along with one copy each in Hindi and English duly authenticated by the officer forwarding the implementation report, should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. If, however, the information being furnished is in response to an assurance given in reply to a question etc., asked for by more than one member, an additional copy of the completed proforma (both in Hindi and English) should be furnished in respect of each additional member. A copy of this communication should be endorsed to the Parliament Unit for completing column 7 of its register.</p> <p>8.7.3 The implementation reports should be sent to the Ministry of the Parliamentary Affairs and not to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat. No advance copies of the implementation reports are to be endorsed to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat either.</p>
<p>Laying of the implementation report on the Table of the House</p>	<p>8.8 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after a scrutiny of the implementation report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the statement, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the Member as well as the department concerned. The Parliament Unit of the department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of this statement, make a suitable entry in their registers.</p>
<p>Obligation to lay a paper on the Table of the House <i>vis-à-vis</i> Assurance on the same subject</p>	<p>8.9 Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfilment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this is done, a report in formal implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in the prescribed proforma (Annexure 6) in the manner already described in para 8.7.2.</p>

Committees on Government Assurances LSR 323,324 RSR 211-A	8.10 Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Speaker/Chairman. It scrutinized the implementation reports and the time taken in the scrutinized of Government Assurances and focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, from time to time are to be followed strictly.
Reports of the Committees on Government Assurances	8.11 The department will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two committees for remedial action wherever called for.
Effect on Assurances on dissolution of the Lok Sabha	8.12 On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, all Assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with a specific recommendation regarding the Assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2017-2018)
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SEVENTH SITTING
(11.07.2018)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1745 hours in Committee Room "D", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Tariq Anwar
4. Shri C.R. Patil
5. Shri K.C. Venugopal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.C. Tripathy — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

WITNESSES

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*** *** *** ***

Ministry of Textiles

1. Shri Anant Kumar Singh — Secretary (Textiles)
2. Shri Puneet Agarwal — Joint Secretary
3. Shri Sanjay Sharan — Joint Secretary
4. Smt. Jaya Dubey — Joint Secretary
5. Shri A. Madhukar Reddy — Joint Secretary

6. Smt. Babni Lal	—	Economic Advisor
7. Shri Shantmanu	—	Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)
8. Ms. Aditi Das Raut	—	Trade Advisor
9. Shri Manoj Jain	—	Director (Handlooms)
10. Shri S.R. Gaikwad	—	Director
11. Shri C.Chinnappa	—	Additional Economic Advisor

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Shri A.K. Jha — Under Secretary
2. Shri Purushottam Kumar — Section Officer

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda.

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6. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Textiles were ushered in. Welcoming them to the sitting of the Committee, the Chairperson drew attention of the witnesses to the Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Hon'ble Speaker regarding confidentiality of the proceedings till the relevant Report of the Committee is presented to the House. The Committee then took their oral evidence on the pending Assurances. The Committee desired to know as to whether the Ministry have prepared any network wherein a review meeting is held in an interval of 15 or 20 days at the level of the Joint Secretary or Additional Secretary or Secretary or the Hon'ble Minister for the appraisal of pending Assurances. The Secretary, Ministry of Textiles informed the Committee that he undertakes a meeting of senior officers on alternate Tuesdays in which Assurances form an important part. The Committee then reviewed eight Assurances (**Annexure-V**) of the Ministry pertaining to the period from the 8th Session of the 15th Lok Sabha to the 4th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha as mentioned below:

- (i) USQ No. 3123 dated 31.07.2014 regarding 'National Textile Policy' (Sl.No. 1)
- (ii) USQ No. 645 dated 26.02.2015 regarding 'National Textile Policy' (Sl.No. 3)
- (iii) USQ No. 3773 dated 19.03.2015 regarding 'Review/Evaluation of Textile Industry' (Sl.No. 6)
- (iv) USQ No. 6787 dated 07.05.2015 regarding 'New National Textile Policy' (Sl. No. 7)

The Committee were informed that the Government had constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shanker for reviewing the Textile Policy, 2000

and formulating a new National Textile Policy. The Committee made 85 recommendations on different subjects. The Department accepted 64 recommendations and assimilated these to its ongoing scheme. Some of the key aspects of the Report were also discussed during the 24 academic sessions and 6 International and State sessions held during Textile India in June/July, 2017. The representatives stressed that since the scheme could not have been stopped due to aspirations of the people, the Ministry decided to incorporate the inputs received from these sessions/discussions into its existing schemes. The representatives further, explained that by promulgating all the inputs/recommendations from 2016-17 onwards into its already ongoing schemes, they have achieved the intention to work towards review of the Textile Policy. The Secretary, Ministry of Textiles expressed gratitude to the Committee for sparing their time and commending their efforts during their Study Visit to Lucknow. While submitting that out of 85 recommendations of Ajay Shanker Committee, 64 have been implemented, 9 have been rejected and only 2 recommendations which seem to be sensitive in nature are pending, the representatives requested the Committee to treat the Assurance as fulfilled. The Committee lauded the efforts made by the Ministry and requested them to furnish an Implementation Report to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs with a copy thereof endorsed to the Lok Sabha Secretariat:

- II (i) USQ No. 1842 dated 04.12.2014 regarding 'Handicraft Sector' (SI.No. 2)**
- (ii) USQ No. 2700 dated 12.03.2015 regarding 'Hastakala Academy' (SI.No. 4)**
- (iii) USQ No. 2717 dated 12.03.2015 regarding 'Opening of Research Centres' (SI.No. 5)**
- (iv) USQ No.6821 dated 07.05.2015 regarding 'National Policy for Handicrafts' (SI. No. 8)**

The Committee were informed that the Ministry have taken various steps to protect/revive the handicraft sector and they have a scheme under which pension is provided to impoverished craftsmen engaged in endangered Arts. The representatives informed that since these crafts involves Guru Shishya Parampara and is usually passed from parents to children, they have identified 34-35 crafts and have decided to educate new generation about these arts to keep them alive. The Committee were further informed that to incentivize these endangered crafts, the Ministry have decided to confer rewards to these crafts. Further, all the schemes related to handicraft sector have been put on the Ministry's website and all the arrangements for tools, raw materials, designs, training and common facilities have been made accordingly. Further, earlier the Ministry used to implement the schemes through NGOs. However, after realizing that NGOs lose interest in the schemes after 3-4 years, the Ministry have made arrangements to open their own Centers in co-ordination with various States. The Committee were also apprised that 61 officers have been identified to be appointed as in-charges of clusters to review the work carried out through NGOs, State Governments or Central Government. The

representatives expressed the hope that now, after executing schemes in a focussed way, they would be able to implement the schemes more effectively and the same has been done in the Handloom Sector.

The representatives also apprised that earlier only 1.2 lakh out of 42 lakh weavers were benefiting individually and now, after overhauling the system, allocation of yarn is made as per percentage of weavers in a State so that it reaches maximum number of weavers. Further, in addition to the identity cards, weavers are being provided passbooks so that they can get the yarn conveniently from the State Government. In addition to this, warehouse facilities have been extended to all the States so that no problems are faced in their distribution. Earlier every single cluster did not have the facility of a depot but now arrangements have been made to provide a depot to each and every cluster. The representatives further apprised that they have a promotional scheme under which 90 per cent grant is provided by the Government and only 10 per cent amount is required to be contributed by the weaver. Additionally, the Ministry make sure that whenever handloom or training is provided, the weavers also get the equipment so that they reap maximum benefit out of those tools. Further, to counter the complaints of favoritism, the Government has set priorities to train senior weavers who in turn will train others. In this way, the Government has been trying to reach each and every weaver in a just and equitable manner. The representatives also apprised that after the announcement by the Union Finance Minister about the constitution of the Scheme during the Budget Session 2014, the Ministry approached 65 Corporate Houses. However, their response was not satisfactory. After exhausting all the options, a CCA Note for Rs. 100 crore was prepared on 18.07.2014 in which the Government of India's contribution was Rs. 30 crore. When the CCA Note was circulated, the Finance Ministry suggested that since the modalities of earlier scheme were different, an EFC Note was required to be prepared under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Expenditure. The representatives further informed that they prepared the EFC Note and circulated the Draft Cabinet Note. The Ministry received observations on the Note by the PMO and decided that irrespective of the poor response, the efforts will continue to be made to seek private partnership. Subsequently, a suggestion was received to consult NITI Aayog and consultations have been made with the Department of Expenditure, NITI Aayog and the Department of Personnel and Training. The Department of Expenditure have suggested to rename the National Handicraft and Handloom Museum as Hastakala Academy and Museum, to redesign the scope and functions of advisory committee and necessary financial support may be provided to National Handicraft and Handloom Museum, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Textiles as Hastakala Academy. The matter has again been taken up with Ministry of Finance for their concurrence to establish the Hastakala Academy. NITI Aayog has also been pursued for their comments. The Committee lauded the efforts made by the Ministry to revive the handicraft sector and to improve the standard of living of weavers. Observing that a lot of work has been done on the matter, the Committee, directed the Ministry to furnish a Part Implementation Report.

7. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE V

STATEMENT OF PENDING ASSURANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
FROM 8th SESSION OF 15TH LOK SABHA TO 4TH SESSION OF
16th LOK SABHA

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No., dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 3123 dated 31.07.2014	National Textile Policy
2.	USQ No. 1842 dated 04.12.2014	Handicraft Sector
3.	USQ No. 645 dated 26.02.2015	National Textile Policy 2015
4.	USQ No. 2700 dated 12.03.2015	Hastakala Academy
5.	USQ No. 2717 dated 12.03.2015	Opening of Research Centres
6.	USQ No. 3773 dated 19.03.2015	Review/Evaluation of Textile Industry
7.	USQ No. 6787 dated 07.05.2015	New National Textile Policy .
8.	USQ No. 6821 dated 07.05.2015	National Policy for Handicrafts

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2018-2019)
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)
FOURTH SITTING
(11.02.2019)

The Committee sat from 1030 hours to 1050 hours in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 133, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agarwal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri E.T. Mohammad Basheer
5. Shri Naranbhai Kachhadiya
6. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri N.C. Gupta | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri P.C.Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following Eleven (11) draft Reports without any amendments:

- (i) Draft Ninety-first Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of AYUSH.
- (ii) Draft Ninety-second Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Tourism.
- (iii) Draft Ninety-third Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Steel.

- (iv) Draft Ninety-fourth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).
- (v) Draft Ninety-fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of External Affairs.
- (vi) Draft Ninety-sixth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Textiles.
- (vii) Draft Ninety-seventh Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Heavy Industry).
- (viii) Draft Ninety-eighth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (ix) Draft Ninety-ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Acceded to).
- (x) Draft One Hundredth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to).
- (xi) Draft One Hundred - First Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the current session of the Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

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