

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *179
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

SUBSIDY TO HANDLOOM WEAVERS

*179. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to give subsidies to the handloom weavers on the proper validating of the finished product, rather than the existing subsidy on raw materials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to implement special package to develop/improve the Handloom Sector in India at par with MSME Sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*179 for 30.07.2021

(a) & (b): The Government has no such proposal under consideration for providing subsidy to the handloom weavers on finished products. However, to encourage handloom agencies for sale of finished products, the Ministry has Marketing Incentive (MI) scheme, a sub-component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). The handloom agencies across the country are eligible for MI, to improve competitiveness of handloom products, to invest in infrastructure and improve productivity.

(c) & (d): The Handloom Sector is unorganized, rural-centric and traditional in nature. To overcome various challenges being faced by handloom weavers, the Ministry of Textiles has taken following new initiatives to develop and improve the handloom sector: -

- i. To support the handloom sector and to enable wider market for handloom weavers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. So far about 1.50 Lakh weavers have been on-boarded on the GeM portal.
- ii. To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and ensure better incomes, 125 Handloom Producer companies have been formed in different States.
- iii. Under Concessional Credit/Weaver MUDRA Scheme, margin money assistance at 20% of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs.10,000/- per weaver, interest subvention upto 7% and credit guarantee on loans for a period of three (3) years are given.
- iv. Design Resource Centres (DRCs) have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) at Delhi, Mumbai, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati, through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers access design repositories for sample/product improvisation and development.
- v. To promote marketing of handloom products, Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) has been organizing International Fairs in virtual mode. During the year 2020-21, 12 handloom fairs were organized in virtual mode. Besides, 53 domestic marketing events were also organized in different parts of the country for the weavers to market and sell their products.

Besides, the Ministry of Textiles is also implementing the following schemes for development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);
2. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS);
3. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS);
4. Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS);

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to the eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, purchase of upgraded looms & accessories, design innovation & product diversification, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products in domestic as well as overseas markets, Mudra loans at concessional rates, etc.
