

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.137  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

DEVELOPMENT AND RESTORATION OF HANDLOOM UNITS

137. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is providing/ proposes to provide any special package for the development and restoration of the handloom industry; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the hardships of the female workers in 'Chendamangalam' handloom weaving cluster in Kerala which suffered destruction in the recent floods in Kerala;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has any concrete plan to revive the weaving clusters and mitigate the hardships of the 'Chendamangalam' women handloom weavers and if so, the details thereof?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी)

MINISTER OF TEXTILES  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) For holistic development of handloom sector, Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes across the country :
  - (i) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);
  - (ii) Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme (CHCDS);
  - (iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) ; and
  - (iv) Yarn Supply scheme

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, marketing of handloom products, loans at concessional rates etc.

## **A. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)**

- (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto Rs. 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance upto Rs. 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level.
- (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistance** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
- (iii) **Weavers' MUDRA Scheme:** Under the Weavers' Mudra Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of Rs. 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. **MUDRA portal** has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.

## **B. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme**

Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana(PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana(MGBBY).

## **C. Yarn Supply Scheme:**

Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk and woollen yarn with quantity caps.

## **D. HATHKARGHA SAMVARDHAN SAHAYATA (HSS):**

Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released directly in the Bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.

## **E. EDUCATION OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND THEIR CHILDREN:**

Ministry of Textiles has signed Memoranda of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for

handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

F. **“India Handloom” Brand**- During the celebration of 7th August 2015 as National Handloom Day, ‘India Handloom’ Brand was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of Rs. 689.72 crore as reported on 31-03-2019.

G. **e-commerce**- In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products. A total sales of Rs. 34.72 crore has been reported through the online portal as on 31-03-2019

(b)to(d) To overcome hardships due to destruction in the recent flood in Kerala, State Government of Kerala has requested ‘Chendamangalam’ Handloom Societies to submit a revival project for extending financial assistance. The following are the details of the project under consideration of State Government of Kerala, submitted by the ‘Chendamangalam’ Handloom Societies:

Sl.No.	Components	Approx. estimate
1.	Building (ground & 1 <sup>st</sup> floor)	Rs.93,60,199.00
2.	Shed for Natural Drying Unit (PVC water tank with 5000 ltrs. Capacity with pump set)	Rs.42,10,008.00
3.	Machinery and utilities	Rs.30,01,184.00
4.	Electrical installations and panel boards	Rs.10,00,000.00
5.	Cost of Diesel Generator 125 KV	Rs.13,00,000.00
6.	Effluent Treatment Plant	Rs.30,00,000.00
7.	Furniture	Rs.05,00,000.00
Total cost		Rs.2,23,71,391.00
Contingency @ 5% of project cost to cover the price escalation, if any		Rs.11,18,570.00
Total capital investment required for the project		Rs.2,34,89,961.00

Also, a Common Facility Centre has been approved by the State Government of Kerala for ‘Chendamanglam’ in Ernakulam District.

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