LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5696 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

PRODUCTION OF TRADITIONAL TEXTILE

5696. SHRI GIRISH CHANDRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any special action plan to increase the production of traditional textiles such as Banarasi and clothes made of Kosa in the country and also to get them recognition globally by promoting export of the said textiles;
- (b) if so, the nature of the said scheme; and
- (c) the number of weavers who got benefitted with the implementation of this scheme, directly or indirectly?

उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (**श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश**) THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

- (a) to (c): Ministry of Textiles is implementing following two schemes for development of traditional textiles i.e. handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country:
 - 1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
 - 2. Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to the eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw material, Common infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, loans at concessional rates etc.

The schemes aim at increasing productivity by providing improved looms & accessories to the handloom weavers at 90% subsidized rates, skill up gradation through training programmes, design innovation & product diversification by engaging designers, production of varieties of handloom products including traditional & contemporary for domestic as well as overseas markets. This Ministry promotes export of handloom products through organization/participation in international fairs/exhibitions, Buyer-Seller Meet, Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet etc.

Design Resource Centres have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres at Delhi, Mumbai, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati and Kancheepuram to preserve traditional handloom designs and to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector.

Further, the 'India Handloom' Brand (IHB) has been launched for branding and promotion of high quality, niche handloom products with zero defects and zero effect on environment and 1,714 registrations have been issued so far. In order to facilitate handloom weavers to sell their products online, 23 e-commerce platforms have been associated.

Traditional handloom products are also promoted by registering the products under Geographical Indication (GI) Act, 1999. So far, 72 handloom products and 6 product logos are registered under GI Act. Banaras Brocade & Saree and Champa Silk Saree & fabrics (made of Kosa) have been registered under the GI Act to protect them from imitation or their unauthorized use by others.

As per the 4^{th} All India Handloom Census 2019-20, there are 35.22 lakh handloom workers across the country. The benefits of the above schemes are available for all the eligible handloom agencies/ organizations /handloom workers etc. of the country.