

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF TEXTILES**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 10.03.2011**

**ANSWERED ON**

**HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEMES FOR WEAVERS**

1673

Shri Raghunandan Sharma

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :-

- (a) the efforts made by Government to revive the nearly lost traditional skill of weaving of textiles across the country;
- (b) the details of the various health insurance schemes being run by Government for the weavers;
- (c) whether it is a fact that instances of gross bungling and irregularities have come to the force in the weavers health schemes/weavers health insurance schemes being run in different States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

(SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a):The Government of India has been implementing the following schemes for the development of Handlooms all over India, including the State of Rajasthan. The salient features of the schemes are as follows:

(i)Integrated Handloom Development Scheme. This Scheme provides need based inputs to “Clusters” of 300-500 Handloom or “Group” of 10-100 weavers for making them Self sustainable by providing them financial assistance for margin money, working capital, new looms and accessories, skill upgradation, marketing opportunities and construction of Workshed.

(ii)Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme. This scheme provides marketing opportunities and infrastructure support through design development and marketing linkages to assist in the sale of the Handloom products both in domestic and international market.

(iii)Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. Two separate schemes viz. the Health Insurance Scheme for providing Health Insurance to the Handloom Weavers and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana provide Life Insurance cover in case of natural/accidental death, total/partial disability due to accident.

(iv)Mill Gate Price Scheme. This scheme makes available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom agencies to facilitate regular supply of basic raw material to the handloom weavers and to optimize their employment potential.

(v)Diversified Handloom Development Scheme. This scheme provides assistance to technological and skill upgradation of weavers for design and product development through 25 Weavers Service Centres and 05 Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology all over the country to improve the productivity and earnings of the handloom weavers.

(b):The Government of India is implementing a Health Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers for access to health care facilities. The annual health cover for a family of four is Rs.15,000/- out of which substantial provision of Rs. 7,500/- has been kept for OPD. All pre-existing as well as new diseases and maternity benefits (per child for the first two), Dental treatment, Eye treatment, Spectacles, baby coverage etc. are covered.

(c) & (d):No established cases of bungling and irregularities have been reported. However, complaints of delay in settlement of claims and requirement of more hospitals etc. are received from time to time. The Service Provider addresses these complaints directly and under intimation to this office.