

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1914**  
ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2023

**ASSISTANCE TO HANDLOOM SECTOR**

1914. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides financial assistance to handloom workers and weavers for procurement of raw material, looms and other associated equipments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with funds allocated and disbursed to handloom workers under various plans in the State of Maharashtra;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to overcome the challenges faced by the handloom workers and to promote handloom; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to support the handloom sector and create a wider market for handloom weavers in the country, including Maharashtra?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES  
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

**(a):** Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes to promote the handlooms and welfare of handloom workers across the country including State of Maharashtra:

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/ workers for raw materials, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of worksheds, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, concessional loans under weaver's MUDRA scheme and social security etc.

**(b):** Under these schemes, funds are not allocated State/UT-wise. However, need based financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/workers for various interventions on receipt of complete proposals from States/UTs Governments. Under NHDP, financial assistance of Rs. 7.00 crore has been provided to State of Maharashtra for various interventions from 2015-16 to 2023-24 (till 30.06.3023). Under RMSS, 4.00 lakh kg yarn has been supplied to handloom agencies/workers in the State of Maharashtra from 2015-16 to 2023-24 (till 30.06.3023).

**(c):** To overcome the challenges being faced by handloom workers, the Government has taken following steps to promote handloom:

- i. To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and facilitate better incomes, 154 Handloom Producer companies have been formed in different States of the country.
- ii. Under Weaver's MUDRA Scheme, concessional loans are provided to handloom agencies/handloom workers for a period of 3 years.
- iii. 18 Design Resource Centres have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres at Delhi, Mumbai, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Kancheepuram, Kolkata, Meerut, Nagpur, Indore, Panipat, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kannur & Imphal to build & 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.
- iv. For export promotion of handloom products, Handloom Export Promotion Council has been organizing various International marketing events/fairs. Besides, domestic marketing events are also organised in different parts of the country for the weavers to market and sell their products.

**(d):** The Government has taken following steps to support handloom sector and to enable wider market for handloom workers in the country, including Maharashtra:

1. Handloom weavers and handicrafts artisans have been registered on Government e-Market portal to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. Total 1,49,429 handloom weavers and organizations have registered on the GeM portal across the country including 893 weavers/handloom entities in Maharashtra,
2. E-commerce portal is being developed to enable Indian handloom weavers and handicraft artisans to sell their product online, paving the way for their financial and social empowerment and promoting their skills, while eliminating the intermediaries.

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