

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2716
ANSWERED ON- 11/08/2023

DECLINE IN EXPORT OF INDIAN HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS

2716. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to mitigate the impact on artisans and handicraft exporters after the decline in projected Indian handicraft exports due to slowing demand from the USA and EU;
- (b) whether Government has considered specific measures to diversify export markets and promote domestic consumption of handicraft products;
- (c) whether Government has plans to provide social and economic support to those affected by decline in exports and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there are any plans for skill development programs, financial assistance or welfare schemes, specifically tailored to support the well-being and sustainability of the artisan community?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, Government is continuously monitoring export performance and taking various measures to boost production and exports. Under National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) financial assistance is provided to eligible agencies on pan India basis to promote domestic consumption of handicrafts products and also provide awareness for marketing, packaging, entrepreneurship development among the artisans.

(c): The Ministry of Textiles through National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is providing social & economic support to artisans by providing marketing support, skill development, cluster development, direct benefit to artisans, infrastructure and technology support and research & development support.

(d): Skill development support is provided through design development workshop, guru shishya hastshilp prasikshan programme, and comprehensive skill upgradation program. Financial assistance & welfare support is provided in marketing component, infrastructural & technology component, concessional credit through MUDRA loans, Pension for indigent artisans, insurance coverage through PMJJBY components of handicraft schemes.
