

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1594**  
ANSWERED ON- 15/12/2023

**BOOSTING HANDLOOM AND HANDICRAFT SECTOR**

1594. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the huge number of artisans and handloom weavers who have lost their livelihoods because of the lack of access to markets and raw materials availability;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken by Government to boost Handloom and Handicrafts Sector; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c):** The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing various schemes namely National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP), Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Handloom Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS) to boost handicrafts and handloom sector.

**National Handicrafts Development Programme scheme (NHDP):** Various interventions such as cluster development, marketing support, skill & design trainings, infrastructure establishment, raw material depot financial support, social security coverage of artisans & weavers are being undertaken.

**Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS):** To provide requisite support/ linkages in terms of adequate infrastructure, technology, product diversification, design development, raw material banks, marketing & promotion, social security and other components that are vital for sustainability of artisans/craftsmen engaged in the Handicrafts sector.

**National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):** Clusters are identified and financially assisted through various interventions like provision of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, concessional loans under MUDRA Scheme, and social security for the beneficiaries.

**Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS):** The scheme is being implemented to make yarn available to handloom workers at reasonable price across the country. Freight charges are reimbursed for all types of yarn and 15% price subsidy is provided for cotton hank yarn, domestic silk, wool and linen and blended yarn of natural fibres.

No instance of artisans and handloom weavers losing their livelihood because of the lack of access to market and raw material has come to the notice of the Government.