

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-*205
ANSWERED ON- 09/08/2024

**PLAN TO SUPPORT POWER LOOM INDUSTRY IN BHIWANDI, ICHALKARANJI AND
MALEGAON**

*205. SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any specific plan to support the power loom industry in Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji and Malegaon;
- (b) if so, the details of plan, including financial allocations and timeline;
- (c) the various schemes implemented by Government for the welfare of workers in the power loom industry in Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji and Malegaon;
- (d) the details of financial assistance, training programs and social security benefits provided under these schemes;
- (e) the number of workers benefitted from these schemes in the last three years, region-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken to improve the working conditions and safety standards in the power loom industry?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (F) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *205 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 09.08.2024 RAISED BY SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI REGARDING PLAN TO SUPPORT POWERLOOM INDUSTRY IN BHIWANDI, ICHALKARANJI AND MALEGAON.

(a) to (f): A number of initiatives have been taken by the Government in order to ensure holistic development of the entire powerloom sector of the country including that of Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji and Malegaon:-

(i) Comprehensive Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme(CPCDS): With an aim at holistic improvement of existing (brownfield) powerloom clusters, Government extends financial support of a maximum of Rs. 50 crores for each approved Powerloom Mega Cluster project. The scheme has now been subsumed under Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS) and support is extended for completing ongoing projects for meeting committed liabilities only. Under CPCDS, Ichalkaranji Powerloom Mega Cluster was sanctioned in 2012 which is currently at an advanced stage of completion. Rs. 44.85 crore has been released to Ichalkaranji powerloom megacluster as financial support by Government of India.

(ii) Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks: With a view to increasing investments, generating employment opportunities and boosting exports in textile sector, the Ministry is implementing Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) to provide support for setting up textile parks with world-class, state-of-the-art infrastructure in textile hubs across the country. The scheme was in implementation upto 31.03.2021; however, the scheme has now been subsumed under Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS) and support is extended for completing ongoing projects for meeting committed liabilities only. Under SITP, financial support worth Rs. 202.74 crores has been extended to 6 Textiles parks under the clusters of Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji and Malegaon.

(iii) PowerTex India Scheme: In order to enhance the capacities and competitiveness of decentralized powerloom sector, PowerTex India Scheme was launched on a Pan India basis having, an outlay of Rs. 487 crores for the period 2017-20, which was extended upto 2021. The scheme has now been subsumed under Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS) and support is extended for completing ongoing projects for meeting committed liabilities only. Under the scheme Rs. 9.23 crore, 58.08 crore & Rs. 12.28 crore have been released to powerloom units in Ichalkaranji cluster, Bhiwandi cluster and Malegaon cluster respectively.

(iv) Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS): Under the scheme, credit linked Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS) is provided to units located across the country for purchase of benchmarked machinery in different segment of Textile Sectors (excluding spinning) across the value chain and across fibers including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and small textile manufacturing units. The validity of the scheme was till 31.03.2022. Currently only committed liabilities are provided under this scheme. A financial support of Rs. 181.69 crore to 1,010 units has been provided in Ichalkaranji, Bhiwandi and Malegaon under the scheme.

(v) Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS) :- Under this scheme Grant-in-aid is provided to powerloom service centres of Textile Research Associations (TRAs) and State Government. There are two powerloom service centres in Bhiwandi cluster and one each in Ichalkaranji and Malegaon cluster. These powerloom service centres provide testing, training, technical consultancy and troubleshooting services to the powerloom industry in these clusters. In the last three years training has been provided to 1,054 weavers in these clusters.

(vi) In addition, the Government of Maharashtra is implementing the Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy 2023-2028 to support various components of the textile value chain in Maharashtra including Powerlooms. The Maharashtra Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (MAHA_TUFS) seeks to facilitate Powerlooms in Maharashtra including in Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji and Malegaon in augmenting investments, productivity, quality, employment and exports through various incentives to the eligible units for technology upgradation as per specified guidelines.

(vii) Government had been also implementing a Group Insurance Scheme against death/disability for Powerloom weavers. Financial assistance of Rs.15.69 crore for 3,148 death claims was provided from 2003-2019 under Group Insurance Scheme (GIS) in the state of Maharashtra. Besides social security benefits through scholarship of Rs. 48.65 lakh for 5,539 children of powerloom workers were provided under Shiksha Sahayog Yojana in the state of Maharashtra since inception. From 1.4.2020, the Group Insurance Scheme has been converged with Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).
