

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-638**  
ANSWERED ON- 29/11/2024

**PROBLEMS OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS**

638. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether handloom weavers face a number of problems like lack of working capital, increasing price of raw materials, stiff competition from the power loom sector etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the health hazards being faced by them;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ameliorate the condition of handloom weavers;
- (d) whether Government propose to set up a raw material bank to provide all kinds of inputs to weavers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES  
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

**(a) to (c):** Ministry of Textiles, Government of India is implementing following schemes to resolve the problems being faced by the handloom weavers across the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);
2. Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS);

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to the eligible handloom beneficiaries for raw materials, working capital loan, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories to create healthy work environment, solar lighting units to reduce the stress on eyes after sunset, construction of workshed, training and skill up-gradation, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing support for handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, social security, need based financial assistance in indigent circumstances to Awardee weavers and Scholarship to weavers' children etc. Moreover, the Ministry has been implementing the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 for production of reserved items only on Handlooms and to protect the interest of handlooms weavers in the country.

**(d) & (e):** There is no provision for setting up of raw material bank under the above schemes. However, 511 Yarn depots and 46 warehouses of National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) Ltd. are engaged for supply and distribution of yarn to handloom weavers across the country under RMSS.

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