

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-800**  
ANSWERED ON- 25/07/2025

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE HANDLOOM AND HANDICRAFT SECTORS IN RURAL AREAS**

800. SHRI DORJEE TSHERING LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes/projects initiated for the development of the handloom and handicraft sectors in rural areas over the last five years, particularly in Sikkim;
- (b) the funds allocated and utilized under these schemes, State-wise, with a focus on Sikkim;
- (c) the number of beneficiaries, especially woman, under these schemes, State-wise, particularly in Sikkim; and
- (d) whether Government plans to implement specific schemes for the development of handloom and handicraft sectors targeted towards ST communities?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES  
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

**(a) & (b):** The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for the development of handloom and handicraft sectors across the country, including rural areas and Sikkim:

1. National Handloom Development Programme;
2. Raw Material Supply Scheme;
3. National Handicraft Development Programme;
4. Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme;

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms, accessories and toolkits, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom and handicraft products in domestic and overseas markets, loans at concessional rates, etc.

In the schemes implemented by the Ministry of Textiles in these sectors, budget is not allocated State/UT-wise. Funds to eligible handloom agencies are released for various interventions on receipt of viable proposals as per the extant guidelines of the respective schemes. The details of funds released and utilised under these schemes during the last five years are as follows:

(Rs. In crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funds released/utilised</b>
2020-21	392.98
2021-22	651.86
2022-23	428.60
2023-24	465.85
2024-25	486.35

**(c):** The details regarding State-wise number of beneficiaries including women weavers/artisans under schemes of Handloom and Handicraft sectors during the last five years are given at Annexure-I.

**(d):** In order to encourage ST communities, the Ministry of Textiles provides additional incentives to them to sustain and augment their business. Some of the benefits provided to ST weavers/artisans across the country including Sikkim are:

- Under schemes of handloom and handicrafts sector, preference is given to programmes which have weavers/artisans from women/SC/ST/OBC category.
- There is 100% subsidy to BPL/SC/ST/Women/Transgender/Differently-abled weavers for construction of work sheds under National Handloom Development Programme.

**Statement referred to in reply of part (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 800 for answer on 25-07-2025**

State-wise number of weavers/artisans including women under schemes of Handloom and Handicraft sectors during the last five years

SI. No.	State	Weavers benefitted	Artisan benefitted
1.	Andhra Pradesh	85,201	17,597
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,356	2,500
3.	Assam	46,120	21,163
4.	Bihar	5,968	15,111
5.	Chhattisgarh	7,509	4,530
6.	Delhi	172	12,965
7.	Goa	27	2,120
8.	Gujarat	3,192	29,977
9.	Haryana	3,514	7,435
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2,319	15,136
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	4,551	24,987
12.	Jharkhand	5,713	9,674
13.	Karnataka	25,440	12,894
14.	Kerala	17,140	10,331
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4,657	42,740
16.	Maharashtra	4,515	18,996
17.	Manipur	30,009	15,193
18.	Meghalaya	494	4,426
19.	Mizoram	2,617	2,350
20.	Nagaland	1,073	4,730
21.	Odisha	34,538	16,210
22.	Puducherry	1,520	4,460
23.	Punjab	567	9,310
24.	Rajasthan	1,465	29,992
25.	Sikkim	81	2,310
26.	Tamil Nadu	1,25,463	13,806
27.	Telangana	44,871	8,984
28.	Tripura	1,749	16,230
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1,20,818	1,04,054
30.	Uttarakhand	5,302	8,315
31.	West Bengal	55,964	14,531
32.	All India (non-state specific)	1,060	7,263
<b>Total</b>		<b>6,44,985</b>	<b>5,10,320</b>

Besides, 1,810 artisans benefitted in A & N Islands, 750 in Chandigarh, 50 in Daman & Diu and 3,264 in Ladakh.

Note: 71% of the handloom weaver population and 64% of the artisan population are women hence the maximum benefits are being given to women weavers/artisans.

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