

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2391
ANSWERED ON- 19/12/2025

LIVELIHOOD OF HANDLOOM AND POWER LOOM WORKERS

2391. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the loss of livelihood of handloom and power loom workers and the productivity issues during the last five years, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether most weavers want to sell their textile products to Government institutions and seek subsidy for procurement of raw materials, if so, the details thereof and assistance given by Government; and
- (c) whether textile industry is facing several bottlenecks and slowdown due to the rigid Government norms and policies, if so, the details thereof and remedial measures taken during the last five years and till date?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a): No information on loss of livelihood of handloom and powerloom workers has been received by this Ministry.

(b): Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has taken steps to on-board weavers and artisans on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. An amendment was introduced in Rule 153 of GFR 2017 on 17.02.2020, wherein it was mandated that “Of all items of textiles required by Central Government departments, it shall be mandatory to make procurement of at least 20% from amongst items of handloom origin, for exclusive purchase from KVIC and/or Handloom Clusters such as Cooperative Societies, Self Help Groups (SHG), Federations, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Producer Companies (PC), Corporations etc. including weavers having Pehchan Cards”.

Regarding Subsidy for procurement for raw materials is concerned, it is informed that Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS) is being implemented throughout the country to make available yarn to handloom weavers. Under the Scheme, freight charges are reimbursed for all types of yarn and 15% price subsidy is given for cotton hank yarn, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn and blended yarn of natural fibres with quantity caps.

(c): The Government is implementing various measures to remove bottlenecks and facilitate the growth of the textile industry. The major schemes/initiatives include PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme which seeks to create a modern, integrated large scale, world class industrial ecosystem, which will help in attracting investments and boosting employment; Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme focusing on Man Made Fibre & Apparel, and Technical Textiles to boost large scale manufacturing and enhancing competitiveness; National Technical Textiles Mission focusing on Research Innovation & Development, Promotion and Market Development, Skilling and Export Promotion; SAMARTH – Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector with the objective of providing demand

driven, placement oriented, skilling program; Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) to incentivize technology upgradation and modernization through capital investment subsidy for eligible investment in benchmarked textile machinery; Silk Samagra-2 for comprehensive development of sericulture value chain, National Handloom Development Programme and Raw Material Supply Scheme.

Additionally, to support exports, the Government is implementing the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) scheme for apparel, garments, and made-ups based on the principle of zero-rated exports, while other textile products are supported under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme. India has also entered into 15 Free Trade Agreements and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements, enabling preferential market access for a wide range of textile products. Further, the Ministry of Textiles has developed a 40-country market diversification strategy to expand India's textile export footprint, complemented by the Export Promotion Mission approved by the Cabinet, which provides a coordinated framework for trade facilitation, market promotion, capacity building, and institutional strengthening to drive sustained growth in textile exports.
