

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2557**  
ANSWERED ON- 13/03/2026

**NATIONAL HANDICRAFTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NHDP)**

2557. SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:  
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:  
SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:  
SHRI MADAN RATHORE:  
SHRI MILIND MURLI DEORA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of artisans, particularly from Rajasthan, covered under various components of the National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) as of January 2026;
- (b) the details of financial assistance extended directly to artisans and artisan clusters under NHDP, including support for tools, raw materials, marketing and infrastructure;
- (c) whether participation of Indian handicraft artisans and exporters in international exhibitions, fairs and buyer-seller meets has increased during this period; and
- (d) if so, the comparative figures and key markets targeted?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES  
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

**(a):** A total of 3,255 number of artisans covered in the state of Rajasthan, under various components of the National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP) during the FY 2025-26 (upto January 2026).

**(b):** Under the National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) Scheme, financial assistance is provided to eligible agencies/artisans for skilling, design development workshops, infrastructural support, marketing of handicrafts products in domestic & international markets, concessional loans under artisans MUDRA Scheme and Social Security etc. A total of Rs. 188.99 Crore expenditure has been incurred under NHDP Scheme during the FY 2025-26 (upto 06.03.2026).

**(c) & (d):** Under Marketing Services & Support component of NHDP, artisan/exporters are deputed to participate in international fairs, thematic exhibitions, road shows (abroad), Buyer Seller Meets and Reverse Buyer Seller Meets and in International Craft Exposure Programme awardee artisans (such as Padma Shri and Shilp Guru) are also nominated for live craft demonstrations under cultural exchange programs. Number of artisans/exporters participated in international marketing events during FY 2021-22 to 2025-26 is given below:

Head wise details	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Artisans/ Exporters	437	585	648	929	1,114
Key Market (Countries)	2	8	7	16	13

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