

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2558
ANSWERED ON- 13/03/2026

BENEFITS THROUGH HANDICRAFT PROMOTION SCHEMES

2558. SHRI PRADIP KUMAR VARMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made in weavers' income, production efficiency and market access through the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Handloom Cluster Development and the Mill Gate Price Subsidy Scheme;
- (b) the achievements made in intellectual property protection and heritage preservation through GI registration, craft documentation and skill development;
- (c) the improvements made in quality, cost reduction and technology adoption through Common Facility Centres (CFCs), design assistance and modern equipment; and
- (d) the success achieved in market access, brand building and revenue growth through marketing assistance, e-commerce and buyer-seller fairs?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a): Ministry of Textiles through Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) promotes handloom products across the country through promotional activities by implementing following schemes:

- (i) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);
- (ii) Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS);

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, skilling, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic & international markets, concessional loans under weavers' MUDRA scheme and social security etc.

(b): To protect the intellectual property of handloom and handicraft products, 448 items have been registered under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

The Indian Textiles and Craft Repository was developed by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in collaboration with the Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts). This national knowledge portal serves as a comprehensive digital reservoir for a wide range of users including Artisans, Designers, Scholars, Students, Art Enthusiasts and the General Public. The repository aims to digitally preserve and promote India's rich textile heritage globally while facilitating scholarly communication.

Ministry of Textiles under SAMARTH (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector) provides demand driven, placement-oriented skilling programmes to supplement the efforts of the industry in creating jobs in the organized textile and related sectors, covering the entire value chain of textiles, excluding spinning and weaving in organized sector on pan India basis. During the last five years, 36,288 handloom weavers/workers are trained under SAMARTH.

(c): To enhance productivity and technical efficiency, Common Facility Centres (CFCs) have been established under the National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) to support artisans and craft clusters. These sanctioned CFCs facilitate cost reduction and technology adoption. Furthermore, the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) conducts Design & Technical Development Workshops (DDW) and Improved Toolkits Distribution Programmes. These initiatives empower artisans with contemporary designs and upgraded tools to fulfill evolving market trends and ensure global competitiveness.

(d): For export promotion of handlooms, participation of handloom exporters/weavers in various International marketing events/fairs India International Trade Fair, Buyer Seller Meet, Reverse Buyer Seller Meet, Big Ticket events, Bharat Tex, are organized through Handloom Export Promotion Council.

India Handloom Brand (IHB) was launched on the occasion of 1st National Handloom day on 7th August 2015 with the objective is to promote production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. The salient features 100% Handloom, Made of 100% Natural fibers, Assured Fast Colours, Skin Friendly Dyes & Socially Compliant. So far, 2,191 registrations have been issued under 184 product categories.
