

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-958
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2026

LOSS IN INCOME DUE TO COMPETITION FROM POWERLOOM

958. SHRI ANTHIYUR P. SELVARASU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that handloom weavers in Erode district, Tamil Nadu, are losing orders and income due to low-cost powerloom competition despite statutory protection for reserved handloom items;
- (b) if so, the details of enforcement actions taken in the district during the last three years to prevent violations and misuse of handloom labels; and
- (c) the steps proposed to ensure strict compliance and provide effective protection to genuine handloom weavers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a): The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing the Handlooms (Reservation of articles for Production) Act, 1985 for protection of handloom weavers from production of reserved articles under the ibid Act on power looms through various measures including power loom inspections.

(b): The details of enforcement action taken in Erode district in last 03 years and current Financial Year are as under:

S.no	Year	Total Powerlooms Inspected	No. of Case Filed
1.	2025-26	12,178	08
2.	2024-25	20,502	11
3.	2023-24	21,570	18
4.	2022-23	10,149	09
Total		64,399	46

(c): To implement the Act effectively, the Ministry of Textiles provides central assistance to the eligible State Governments including Tamil Nadu (HQ: Chennai and field offices at Erode, Salem, Tiruchengode, Madurai and Tirpur) for setting up and continuation of enforcement machinery under the “Scheme for Protection of Handlooms and Implementation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production), Act, 1985”.
