

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1533
ANSWERED ON- 31/07/2026

ISSUES IN TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY

1533 # SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:
SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) year-wise contribution of textile and apparel industry to India's GDP since Financial Year 2021-22, and share of handloom, handicrafts and carpets sector in it;
- (b) State/UT-wise registered handloom weavers, active loom households and weaver households that exited the sector during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to extend Employees' State Insurance (ESI), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) coverage to handloom weavers and allied workers, if so, details and timeline thereof; and
- (d) whether over half of handloom units in Assam, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh has witnessed a decline in production, if so, the corrective measures proposed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a): The Indian Textile and Apparel Industry plays a crucial role in India's economic growth, boosting exports, creating jobs, empowering women and showcasing India's rich heritage and culture. As per National Accounts Statistics, the contribution of textile industry to India's GDP is around 2% since financial year 2021-22.

(b): As per 4th Handloom Census 2019-20, State/UT-wise details of handloom workers and looms are annexed.

(c): As per the First Schedule of the Code on Social Security (CoSS), 2020, Chapter IV (ESIC) is applicable on every establishment in which ten or more persons are employed other than a seasonal factory. Accordingly, handloom weavers and allied workers employed in establishments covered under the ESIC provisions are already eligible for benefits under the ESI Scheme, which include medical care, cash benefits during sickness, maternity and disablement, as well as dependent benefits in the event of death due to an employment injury.

Furthermore, the Code on Social Security, 2020 mandates that establishments employing 20 or more employees are required to register and comply with EPFO, while establishments with lesser employment strength may obtain voluntary coverage and comply. The EPF membership is mandatory for workers whose wages at the time of their first employment is less than or equal to Rs. 15,000/- per month, whereas voluntary membership is

available at the joint option of the employer and employee for those whose wages are above Rs. 15,000/- at the time of joining.

(d): Due to unorganized and traditional nature of handloom sector, production data pertaining to this Sector is dispersed and largely unavailable for centralized quantification. To promote and development of handloom sector, Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes across the country:

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

Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, SAMARTH training for skill development and capacity building, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, loans under weaver MUDRA scheme, social security through PMJJBY & PMSBY, need based financial support to Awardee weavers, Scholarship to handloom workers' children etc.

Annexure

State/UT-wise details of handloom workers and looms as per 4th Handloom Census 2019-20		
State	No. of handloom workers	No. of looms
Andhra Pradesh	177447	93375
Arunachal Pradesh	94616	99454
Assam	1283881	1248806
Bihar	12847	8447
Chhatisgarh	21503	12743
Delhi	4285	2498
Goa	26	16
Gujarat	10601	9903
Haryana	25542	11759
Himachal Pradesh	13688	15202
J&K	23328	14750
Jharkhand	22497	8607
Karnataka	54791	24071
Kerala	22084	31619
Madhya Pradesh	18072	12069
Maharashtra	3509	4354
Manipur	224684	216192
Meghalaya	42774	43220
Mizoram	27540	22875
Nagaland	43484	70089
Odisha	117836	48161
Pondicheery	1690	929
Punjab	969	758
Rajasthan	10090	6446
Sikkim	697	132
Tamil Nadu	243575	218748
Telangana	47852	17095
Tripura	137639	166050
Uttar Pradesh	190957	124242
Uttrakhand	12561	7368
West Bengal	631447	283404
Total	3522512	2823382
