GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1599
ANSWERED ON- 31/07/2026

DECLINE IN NUMBER OF TEXTILE MANUFACTURING FACTORIES IN BIHAR

1599 # DR. BHIM SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the decline in the number of textile manufacturing factories in Bihar from 19 in 2019–20 to 13 in 2023–24, as reported in the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), and the efforts being made to prevent the world-renowned Bhagalpuri Silk industry from becoming sick and to protect it;
(b) whether any special financial assistance is being provided for modern looms, cluster development and value addition in the silk sector for weavers; and
(c) the concrete steps being taken to promote the international export of Bhagalpuri Silk?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a): As per ASI report number of textile manufacturing factories declined from 19 in 2019-20 to 13 in 2023-24, however as per State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB), Bihar a total of 32 textiles manufacturing units are operational currently. The possible reason for declining may be limited availability of working capital and bank loans, competition from large textiles producing states, adverse impact of COVID-19 on production & marketing, use of old & obsolete machines and lack of technology upgradation etc. Government of India through Silk Samagra-2 is extending support to States towards implementation of beneficiary-oriented critical field level interventions including Bihar covering farm-to-fabric activities. Further, as per state's requisition, the necessary R&D, Training & technical assistance is also provided through Research institutes/sub units of Central Silk Board.

(b): Following assistance provided for modernization of looms, cluster development and value addition in the silk sector:

1. Under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), 05 Clusters namely Shekhpura, Sabour, Nathnagar, Makaspur and Miranchak in Bhagalpur district implemented.

2. A total of 556 looms including accessories, 214 lighting units and 73 individual workshed have been provided to weavers across these clusters.

3. Under Working Capital Scheme financial assistance of Rs. 322.70 lakh is provided to 2941 handloom weavers for purchase of raw material since 2019-20 till date.

4. Providing Yarn at concessional rates under the yarn supply scheme.

5. Loan facility through weaver Mudra scheme.

6. Promotion of value addition activities like dyeing, processing and packaging with involvement of Dye House, Katoria (Banka) and Design Studio (Bhagalpur).

7. Under Silk Samagra scheme, Rs. 88.81 crore have been sanctioned and Central assistance of Rs. 51.82 crore has been released covering around 6000 beneficiaries. Out of which, projects in total of Rs. 9.12 crore with Central share of Rs. 4.99 crore benefiting around 520 beneficiaries has been specifically released for development of sericulture in Bhagalpur. Further, central assistance of Rs. 1.09 crore has been provided towards implementation of silk reeling, weaving & processing components in Bhagalpur.

(c): The exports of silk including RMG silk products from Bhagalpur has increased from Rs. 5.1 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 7.0 cr. in 2025-26 registering a growth of 37.3%. The Government is providing following to promote international export of Silk products including Bhagalpuri silk:

1. Publicity of Bhagalpuri Silk under One District One Product(ODOP) and promotion of Bhagalpuri Silk having GI tag.

2. The silk products including Bhagalpuri Silk falling under chapter 50 are eligible for RoDTEP benefit. The apparel of silk falling under chapter 61-62 are also eligible for benefit under RoSCTL scheme.

3. Participation of weavers in international trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, exposure visits etc.

4. Enhancing E-commerce and digital marketing initiatives.

5. Sixteen Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), including the India–United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), are already in force. In addition, the FTA negotiations with the European Union have been successfully concluded, while India has signed an FTA with New Zealand. These agreements provide an opportunity for Indian textiles and apparel sector to enhance their exports and undertake market diversification.

6. Under Market Access Support (MAS), the silk items are allowed under priority category and also eligible for Interest subvention benefit under Export Promotion Mission (EPM).

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