LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3957 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2017

PASHMINA WOOL

3957. SHRI PREM DAS RAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking any steps for value addition in the Pashmina wool of Leh;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to improve handloom infrastructure in the mountain States; and
- (d) the details of expenditure and impact thereof, if any?

उत्तर ANSWER

वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय टम्टा) MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

- (a) & (b): During the 12th Five Year Plan, Ministry of Textiles has implemented schemes for development and value addition of Pashmina Wool in Leh and Kargil of Ladakh region in J. & K State and an amount of Rs.41.17 crore was released for this purpose. Ministry of Textiles has also approved the Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP) for implementation during 2017-2018 to 2019-2020 and Pashmina Promotion Programme is one of the components of IWDP for the value addition of pashmina wool with the following objectives:-
 - Increase in pashmina goat population
 - Increase in pashmina wool production
 - Improved pashmina wool processing facilities
 - New product development
 - More return to pashmina growers
 - Increase in income of pashmina wool product manufacturers
- (c) & (d): In order to develop the handloom clusters & value addition of the handloom products including Pashmina wool, financial assistance is provided under Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) for various interventions like skill up-gradation, engaging designer, Project Management Cost, corpus fund for yarn depot, technological upgradation & other interventions, including product development, documentation of cluster activities, Computer Aided Textile Design (CATD) system etc.. The Government of India through the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms has sanctioned 05 block level clusters i.e. (i) North Srinagar, (ii) Anchaar, (iii) Safakadal, (iv) Illahi Bagh and (v) Mahanpur in Kashmir region of Jammu & Kashmir State since 2015-16, and released an amount of Rs. 2.031 crore.

Further under Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme, financial assistance is provided for setting up of Common Facility centre (CFC)/Dye House in the clusters sanctioned in the country, including mountain States. However, so far funds have not been released in the mountain States for setting up of CFC/Dye House.
