

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5635
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019

INCOME OF THE ARTISANS OF HANDICRAFTS

5635. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has been implementing any scheme for enhancing the income of the artisans of handicrafts in the current year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the measures taken by the Government for the capacity building of artisans so as to upgrade their skills?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी)

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Yes Sir, the Government implements various schemes for enhancing the income of artisans and overall development of handicrafts sector under “National Handicraft Development Programme” (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) in various parts of the country.

The NHDP has following components:

- (i) The Scheme “Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (Base Line Survey & Mobilization of artisans)” aims to promote Indian handicrafts by developing artisans’ clusters into professionally managed and self-reliant community enterprise on the principles of effective member participation and mutual cooperation.
- (ii) The Scheme “Design & Technology Up gradation” aims to upgrade artisans skills through development of innovative designs and prototypes products for overseas market, revival of endangered crafts and preservation of heritage etc.
- (iii) The Scheme “Human Resource Development” has been formulated to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector.
- (iv) The Scheme “Direct Benefit to Artisans” envisages welfare measures like Health and Life insurance, recognition, extending credit facilities, supply of modern tools and equipment to the artisans etc.
- (v) The Scheme “Infrastructure and Technology Support” aims to development of world class infrastructure in the country to support handicraft production, and enhance the product quality and cost to enable it to compete in the global market.

- (vi) The Scheme “Research and Development” was introduced to conduct surveys and studies of important crafts and make in-depth analysis of specific aspects and problems of Handicrafts in order to generate useful inputs to aid policy planning and fine tune the ongoing initiatives.
- (vii) The Scheme “Marketing Support & Services” was introduced to promote and provide financial assistance is provided to artisans to participate in domestic and international craft exhibitions/seminars in metropolitan cities/state capitals / places of tourist or commercial interest/other places.

The CHCDS has two components namely Mega Cluster & Special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft (IDPH):

- (i) Mega cluster approach is a drive to scale up the infrastructural and production chain at Handicrafts clusters. The prospects of this sector lie in infrastructural upgradation, modernization of the machinery and product diversification and Innovative manufacturing as well as, furthered by brand building of the native products hold the key to creating a niche market for the products manufactured by the clusters
- (ii) Special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft (IDPH) was introduced to provide adequate infrastructure for production, value addition and quality assurance for handicrafts and to develop handicrafts as a sustainable and remunerative livelihood option for artisans in the state.

(b): The Government is implementing Human Resource Development (HRD) Scheme for the capacity building of artisans to upgrade their skill. This scheme has been formulated to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector. This workforce shall contribute to a strong production base leading to production of high quality products that cater to present day market requirements. This scheme also aims to create human capital for the sector in terms of trained cadre of designers for the handicrafts by providing relevant inputs through its components. There is also a provision made for the imparting soft skill considered necessary for the artisans to enable them to undertake their own business successfully.

The scheme has the following components:

- (i) Training through established institutions.
- (ii) Handicrafts training Programme.
- (iii) Training through Guru Shishya Parampara.
- (iv) Training of the trainers.
- (v) Design Mentorship and Apprentice Programme.

In addition to above, the Government of India, Ministry of Textile has launched **Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS)** and named it **SAMARTH scheme**. SAMARTH is a flagship skill development scheme to provide demand-driven, placement oriented skilling programme to incentivize of the scheme to promote skilling and skill up-gradation in the traditional sectors through respective sectoral divisions/organizations of Ministry of Textiles; and to provide livelihood to all sections of the society across the country. The scheme would target to train 10 lakh persons over a period of 3 years with an estimated budget of 1300 Cr. and with the participation of Textile industry, institutions/organizations of the Ministry of Textile/State Government.
