Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:
(a) whether the condition of the spinning workers working in the khadi village industry is
deplorable and if so, the reasons therefor;
(b) the steps proposed to be taken for stocking the required amount of cotton at the time of
harvest and supply it at reasonable prices;
(c) whether the Government proposes to make the National Minimum Wage Scheme applicable
to khadi workers also and if so, the reasons therefor; and
(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce partial mechanization for khadi readymade
garment, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA)

(a): No sir. Ministry of MSME, through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is
implementing various schemes under the Khadi Vikas Yojana for upliftment of Khadi artisans as
follows:
   i. 35% quantum of Modified Marketing Development Assistance (MMDA) is provided to
       artisans as incentive in case of KIs of Cotton, Woolen, Polyvastra and 30% quantum of
       MMDA is provided as incentive to KIs for silk.
   ii. Financial assistance is also provided under Workshed Scheme for construction of
       individual as well as group workshed for smooth and fatigue free work environment.

   Apart from the above, spinning wages of artisan will increase from Rs. 7.50/-per hank to
   Rs.10.00/-per hank and weaving wages for Cotton Khadi, Woollen Khadi and Polyvastra will
   increase by 10%, w.e.f. 01.04.2023.

(b): KVIC purchases cotton from Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). KVIC purchases and
maintains sufficient raw material stock, including purchase of additional quantity during the crop
season of cotton i.e., September and October.

(c): Government has not proposed to make the National Minimum Wage Scheme applicable to
khadi workers as Khadi artisans are involved in Khadi activities as a part time work in which
the wages is based on piece rate system depending on their production capacity. The minimum wages
meant for Skilled/ Semi-skilled/ Unskilled labourers of agriculture and other segments are based on
time rate system for 8 hours which is not applicable to Khadi Sector.

(d): No sir, as per the KVIC Act, ‘Khadi’ means any cloth woven on handlooms in India from
cotton, silk or woolen yarn handspun in India or from a mixture of any two or all of such yarns,
whereas for readymade garments, there are no such restrictions.

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