

GROWTH OF HANDLOOM SECTOR IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

860. KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:

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

- (a) the details of the budget allocated for the handloom sector in the current financial year and any plans for its growth of handloom in North Eastern Region;
- (b) the details of non-Governmental organizations or international agencies to support handloom workers in North Eastern Region; and
- (c) whether any financial aid programs and Central sponsored schemes are available for handloom workers in Meghalaya and manner in which it is accessible to rural and remote areas?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश)
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes to promote handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country, including the North Eastern Region for which a budgetary allocation of Rs.360 crore has been made for the year 2023-24:

1. National Handloom Development Programme;
2. Raw Material Supply Scheme;

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, skilling, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing of handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, concessional loans under weavers' MUDRA scheme and social security etc. No specific collaboration with International agencies to support handloom workers is there at present.

In order to support handloom workers and growth of handloom sector in the State of Meghalaya and North Eastern Region, following steps have been taken by the Government of India:

- i. 200 handloom clusters have been taken up for financial assistance in the North Eastern Region, including 6 clusters in Meghalaya.
- ii. 2 Mega Handloom Clusters at Sivasagar(Assam) and East Imphal(Manipur) have been taken up for financial assistance.
- iii. 27,561 handloom workers imparted skill up-gradation training in the North Eastern Region, including 1,108 workers from Meghalaya.
- iv. To integrate Craft promotion with tourism, Craft Handloom Villages are being set up at Mohpara (Assam) and Moirang (Manipur).
- v. To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and facilitate better incomes, 32 Handloom Producer companies (PCs) have been formed in the North Eastern Region.
- vi. Design Resource Centre has been set up in Weavers' Service Centre, Guwahati to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers to access design repositories for product development.
