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

(a) whether the Government has taken any step to preserve and revive the handloom/handicrafts sector and mills in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode;

(b) whether the Government has plans to open any handicraft academy for revival of the handloom sector;

(c) if so, the details of the same along with the investment to be incurred therein and the expected time-frame for it; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to revive Kampil spinning mill and if so, the details thereof?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी)
MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes to revive, promote and develop handloom and handicraft sectors across the country: -

**Handloom Sector:**

1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
3) Handloom Weavers’ Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

Under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Common Infrastructural projects such as Value Addition Centres, Common Facility Centre, Dyeing units, printing Units, Silk spinning units etc. are set up on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in Mega handloom clusters in the ratio of 80 : 20 (GoI : SPV). The detail of projects sanctioned in PPP mode are as under:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Mega cluster and State</th>
<th>Name of the project with Location</th>
<th>Name of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)</td>
<td>Garmenting Unit at Varanasi</td>
<td>M/s G. N. Designer pvt. Ltd. Varanasi</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Processing Unit at Varanasi</td>
<td>M/s Manglam Fab Processors pvt. Ltd., Varanasi</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sivasagar (Assam)</td>
<td>Common Facility Centre at Sivasagar</td>
<td>M/s Rangpur wild silk Fabrics co. ltd., Sivasagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Common Facility Centre at Lakwa</td>
<td>M/s Srishti Handloom Ltd., Sivasagar</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Common Facility Centre at Sonari</td>
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<td>6.</td>
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<td>Common Facility Centre at Demow</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Silk Spinning Unit at Sivasagar</td>
<td>M/s Rudrasagar Silk Ltd., Sivasagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Murshidabad (West Bengal)</td>
<td>Automatic Silk Reeling Unit at Murshidabad</td>
<td>M/s Murshidabad Silk Pvt. Ltd., Murshidabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spun Silk Unit at Murshidabad</td>
<td>M/s Murshidabad Printex pvt. Ltd., Murshidabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Printing Unit at Murshidabad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Common Facility Centre at Murshidabad</td>
<td>M/s Chak Islampur Tantujibi Kendra Pvt. Ltd., Murshidabad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. NATIONAL HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NHDP)

(i) **BLOCK LEVEL CLUSTER**: Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance up to Rs. 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance up to Rs. 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Government.

(ii) **HANDLOOM MARKETING ASSISTANCE** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.

(iii) **WEAVERS’ MUDRA SCHEME**: Under the Weavers’ Mudra Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of Rs. 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. MUDRA portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.

(iv) **HATHKARGHA SAMVARDHAN SAHAYATA (HSS)**: Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India’s share is released directly in the Bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.
EDUCATION OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND THEIR CHILDREN: Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers’ families.

“INDIA HANDLOOM” BRAND- During the celebration of 7th August 2015 as National Handloom Day, ‘India Handloom’ Brand was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of Rs. 722.57 crore has been generated.

Initiatives with various leading brands has been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

E-COMMERCE- In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy framework was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products. A total sales of Rs. 66.20 crore has been reported through the online portal.

URBAN HAATS are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate middle agencies. 38 such Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.

B. COMPREHENSIVE HANDLOOM CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT SCHEME: The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering atleast 15000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as GoI share from Rs. 40.00 to Rs.70.00 crore is in a period of 5 years. 8 mega handloom clusters taken up as announced in the Budgets i.e. Varanasi, Sivasagar (2008-09), Virudhunagar, Murshidabad (2009-10), Prakasam & Guntur districts and Godda& neighbouring districts (2012-13), Bhagalpur &Trichy (2014-15).

Under the scheme, components like conducting Diagnostic Study, engaging Designer, Product Development, Corpus for raw material, Construction of Worksheds (for BPL/SC/ST/Women weavers), Skill up-gradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology up-gradation, lighting units funded 90% and other common infrastructural projects like Design Studio, Marketing Complex, Value Addition Centres, Publicity etc., are funded by the GOI to the extent of 80%.

C. HANDLOOM WEAVERS’ COMPREHENSIVE WELFARE SCHEME: Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).

D. YARN SUPPLY SCHEME: Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn with quantity caps.

Handicraft Sector:
1) National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP)
2) Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
1. **National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP):**

(i) **Base Line Survey & Mobilization of Artisans under Ambedkar Hastship Vikas Yojana:** The Scheme 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) **Design & Technology upgradation (DTU):** The Scheme aims to upgrade artisan’s skills through development of innovative designs and prototypes products for overseas market, revival of endangered crafts and preservation of heritage etc.

(iii) **Human Resource Development (HRD):** The Scheme has been formulated to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector.

(iv) **Direct Benefit to Artisans (DBA):** The Scheme envisages welfare measures like Health and Life insurance, recognition, extending credit facilities, supply of modern tools and equipment to the artisans etc.

(v) **Infrastructure and Technology Support (ITS):** The Scheme 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) **Research and Development (R&D):** The Scheme 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) **Marketing Support & Services (MSS):** The Scheme 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.

2. **Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS):**

(i) **Mega Cluster (MC):** 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):** The scheme 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) & (c): The Government has set up Hastkala Academy in the premises of National Handicrafts and Handloom Museum (NHHM), Pragati Maidan, New Delhi by renaming NHHM into National Craft Museum & Hastkala Academy.

The aims and objectives of the Academy are as under:

1. Conduct of Awareness/ Appreciation programme.
2. Preservation of heritage including Museum collections.
3. Providing research platform for technology up-gradation.
4. Reviving of languishing crafts.

100% budget for Academy is met by Government of India, Ministry of Textiles.

(d): The Kampil spinning mill, Ferukkabad, Uttar Pradesh is a cooperative katai mill under the control of Uttar Pradesh Sahakari Katai Mills Sangh Limited, Kanpur. The Secretary of the Sangh has informed that the Kampil spinning mill is under liquidation and there is no proposal for its revival.

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