

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1790**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021**

**LOSS TO WOOD CRAFT INDUSTRY**

†1790. SHRI HAJI FAZLUR REHMAN:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the heavy loss suffered by the world famous wood craft industry of Saharanpur during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to issue any relief package for the wood craft industry of Saharanpur; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
(SHRI NITIN GADKARI)

(a)&(b): Studies have been conducted by National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to assess the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on MSMEs including units set up under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), across the country.

- A. The main findings of the online study conducted by NSIC to understand the operational capabilities and difficulties faced by the beneficiaries of NSIC schemes amid Covid-19 Pandemic are as follows:
  - i. 91% MSMEs were found to be functional.
  - ii. Five most critical problems faced by MSMEs were identified as Liquidity (55% units), Fresh Orders (17% units), Labour (9% units), Logistics (12% units) and availability of Raw Material (8% units.)
- B. The findings of the study conducted by KVIC are as under:
  - i. 88% of the beneficiaries of PMEGP scheme reported that they were negatively affected due to Covid-19 while the remaining 12% stated that they were benefitted during Covid-19 Pandemic.
  - ii. Among the 88% who were affected, 57% stated that their units were shut down for some time during this period, while 30% reported drop in production and revenue.
  - iii. Among the 12% who had benefitted, 65% stated that their business increased as they had units in retail and health sector and around 25% stated that their units benefitted as they were dealing with essential commodities or services.
  - iv. On the question of regular payment of salaries to the employees, around 46.60% respondents stated that they had paid the salaries in full, 42.54% reported to have partially paid and 10.86% reported to have not paid salary for some time during this period.
  - v. Majority of the beneficiaries expressed the need for additional financial support, relaxation of waiver of interest and marketing support for their products.

(c)&(d): Government has announced a comprehensive package of Rs.20 lakh crore, including for MSMEs, under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (ABA). Announcements pertaining to MSME which also covers 'Woodcraft industry', are as follows:

- i) Emergency Credit Line for MSMEs: Government has operationalized Rs. 3,00,000 crore collateral free loan scheme w.e.f. 23.05.2020 which is likely to benefit 45 lakh MSMEs. As on 25.01.2021, loans for an amount of Rs. 2.39 lakh crore have been sanctioned.
- ii) Rs. 20,000 crore as Subordinate Debt for Stressed MSMEs: As on 31.12.2020, 249 guarantees have been approved amounting to Rs. 27.27 crore.
- iii) Rs. 50,000 crore Equity infusion for MSMEs through Fund of Funds (FoF): CCEA has approved a corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore for Fund of Funds scheme. The detailed guidelines have been issued by the Ministry of MSME.
- iv) Clearing of payment due to MSMEs: Government has announced that MSME dues should be cleared by the Government agencies and CPSEs within 45 days. Since May 2020 and up to 11.01.2021, pending payments of Rs. 26,363.75 crore have been made to MSMEs out of the total dues of Rs. 33,323.92crore.
- v) In view of moratorium declared by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on repayment of interest as well as principle components of loans, status of the accounts was not downgraded till 31.08.2020.
- vi) RBI has provided the relief measures and the CRR of all the banks to be reduced by 100 basis points to 3% of net demand and time liabilities w.e.f March, 28, 2020, which would inject Rs. 1,37,000 crore across the banking system.
- vii) No Global tenders are permitted for government procurement up to Rs. 200 crore.
- viii) In addition, Ministry of MSME has taken initiatives to provide employment opportunities to people including migrant workers in 116 districts of 6 States under Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan. Under PMEGP, Margin Money (subsidy) amounting to Rs. 216.45 crore has been disbursed for setting up 6218 units till 31.01.2021.

In addition to the above, the Office of the DC-Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India has conducted following activities during 2020-21, for promoting the woodcraft artisans in Saharanpur, UP:

1. Eight Seminar/workshops.
2. Two handicrafts Technical Training on wood carving.
3. One Integrated Design project and one Design Development Workshop.

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