

SCHEME FOR WOMEN HANDLOOM WORKERS

3143. SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is running any scheme aimed at the development of women handloom workers in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide special package to such women workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the strategy being chalked out by the Government to promote handloom in Assam?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) to (e): Under various schematic interventions for handloom workers including women workers throughout the country including Assam, financial assistance is provided to the eligible handloom agencies/weavers for raw materials, purchase of upgraded looms & accessories, design innovation & product diversification, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom products in domestic as well as overseas markets, Mudra loans at concessional rates, etc. Further, 100% subsidy is given to women weavers for construction of individual workshed. Kamladevi Chattopadhyay Award has been instituted specifically for women weavers.

To overcome the challenges being faced by handloom workers, the Government has taken following steps for their welfare and to promote handloom including in Assam: -

- i. To support the handloom sector and to enable wider market for handloom weavers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. So far about 1.50 Lakh weavers have been on-boarded on the GeM portal.
- ii. To enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and ensure better incomes, 125 Handloom Producer companies have been formed in different States.
- iii. Under Concessional Credit/Weaver MUDRA Scheme, margin money assistance at 20% of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per weaver, interest subvention upto 7% and credit guarantee fees on loans for a period of three (3) years are given.
- iv. Design Resource Centres (DRCs) have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) at Delhi, Mumbai, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati, through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers access design repositories for sample/product improvisation and development.
- v. To promote marketing of handloom products, Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) has been organizing International Fairs in virtual mode. During the year 2020-21, 12 handloom fairs were organized in virtual mode. Besides, domestic marketing events were also organized in different parts of the country for the weavers to market and sell their products.
