

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ARTISANS

2765. SHRI VINOD L. CHAVDA:  
SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD:  
SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that the livelihood of artisans has deteriorated due to Covid-19 Pandemic in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed any financial assistance schemes for the benefit of these artisans; and
- (d) if so, the details of such artisans and funds provided to them, State-wise?

उत्तर  
ANSWER

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

**(a) to (d):** Government has taken following steps for the welfare of artisans under National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS): -

- (I) 57 Producer Companies have been formed as business model for sustainable development of artisans in a time period of three years by ensuring self sustenance of the SHG /artisans of clusters. The required interventions have been provided to these companies.
- (II) In collaboration with GeM, handicrafts artisans have been onboarded on GeM portal to provide access to direct market platform to sell handicraft products to the government departments and organizations.
- (III) 8 Crafts tourism villages with modern facilities are being set up across the country to promote tourism in handicrafts sector and to provide livelihood opportunity for handicrafts artisans by attracting domestic as well as foreign buyers in the crafts villages. These craft villages also provide an opportunity for exporters and artisans to work closely towards promotion and marketing of handicrafts products.
- (IV) 12 virtual marketing events have been organized during the pandemic to ensure unhindered access to direct marketing platform to handicrafts artisans to sell their products during the Covid pandemic. Further, 1330 Chaupals have been organized throughout the country to facilitate artisans by way of various interventions.
- (V) Under Direct Benefit to Artisans Scheme margin money assistance and interest subventions on MUDRA loans for 3 years subject to maximum of Rs. 1,00,000 are provided. Further the financial support amounting to Rs. 5,000 per month is provided to awardees artisans in handicraft sector whose age is above 60 year and income is less than 1 Lakh per annum.

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