

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *237
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2025

SCHEMES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM AND HANDICRAFT SECTORS

*237. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the handloom and handicraft sectors have huge potential for creating job opportunities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of schemes/projects initiated for the development of the Handloom and Handicraft sectors in rural areas over the last five years, State-wise particularly in Assam;
- (c) the funds allocated and utilized, the number of beneficiaries, especially woman under these schemes, State-wise including Assam; and
- (d) whether the Government plans to implement specific schemes for the development of Handloom and Handicraft sectors targeted towards SC/ST/OBC/Minority communities, if so, the details thereof?

उत्तर
ANSWER
वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री गिरिराज सिंह)
MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (d):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*237 for answer on 05.08.2025.

(a): There is huge potential in handloom and handicraft sectors across the country in terms of facilitation of self-employment opportunities through implementation of various schemes for 35.22 lakh handloom workers and 29.44 lakh handicraft artisans engaged in these sectors. The details regarding State-wise number of handloom workers and handicraft artisans are given at **Annexure-I**.

(b): The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for the development of handloom and handicraft sectors across the country, including rural areas and Assam:

- i. National Handloom Development Programme;
- ii. Raw Material Supply Scheme;
- iii. National Handicraft Development Programme;
- iv. Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme;

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms, accessories and toolkits, design innovation, product diversification, value addition, infrastructure development, marketing of handloom and handicraft products in domestic and overseas markets, loans at concessional rates, etc.

(c): In the schemes implemented by the Ministry of Textiles in these sectors, budget is not allocated State/UT-wise. Funds to eligible handloom/handicraft agencies are released for various interventions on receipt of viable proposals as per the extant guidelines of the respective schemes. The details of funds released and utilised under these schemes across the country including Assam during the last five years are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)	
Year	Funds released/utilised
2020-21	392.98
2021-22	651.86
2022-23	428.60
2023-24	465.85
2024-25	486.35

The details regarding State-wise number of beneficiaries including women weavers/artisans under schemes of Handloom and Handicraft sectors during the last five years are given at **Annexure-II**.

(d): In order to encourage women/SC/ST/OBC communities, the Ministry of Textiles provides additional incentives to them to sustain and augment their business. Some of the benefits provided to women/SC/ST/OBC weavers/artisans across the country are:

- Under schemes of handloom and handicrafts sector, preference is given to programmes which have weavers/artisans from women/SC/ST/OBC category.
- There is 100% subsidy to BPL/SC/ST/Women/Transgender/Differently-abled weavers for construction of work sheds under National Handloom Development Programme.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*237 for answer on 05-08-2025

State-wise number of handlooms, handloom workers and handicraft artisans

Sl. No	State	No. of handlooms	No. of handloom workers	No. of handicraft artisans
1	Andhra Pradesh	93,375	1,77,447	65,881
2	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	2,426
3	Arunachal Pradesh	99,454	94,616	9,602
4	Assam	12,48,806	12,83,881	95,244
5	Bihar	8,447	12,847	1,03,640
6	Chhattisgarh	12,743	21,503	16,256
7	Delhi	2,498	4,285	24,309
8	Goa	16	26	10,238
9	Gujarat	9,903	10,601	1,41,624
10	Haryana	11,759	25,542	42,470
11	Himachal Pradesh	15,202	13,688	27,180
12	Jammu & Kashmir including Ladakh	14,750	23,328	1,43,818
13	Jharkhand	8,607	22,497	87,454
14	Karnataka	24,071	54,791	40,735
15	Kerala	31,619	22,084	53,144
16	Madhya Pradesh	12,069	18,072	1,33,557
17	Maharashtra	4,354	3,509	73,028
18	Manipur	2,16,192	2,24,684	45,762
19	Meghalaya	43,220	42,774	5,170
20	Mizoram	22,875	27,540	2,815
21	Nagaland	70,089	43,484	10,790
22	Odisha	48,161	1,17,836	1,71,330
23	Puducherry	929	1,690	15,629
24	Punjab	758	969	33,889
25	Rajasthan	6,446	10,090	1,66,875
26	Sikkim	132	697	2,363
27	Tamil Nadu	2,18,748	2,43,575	65,911
28	Telangana	17,095	47,852	45,963
29	Tripura	1,66,050	1,37,639	16,833
30	Uttar Pradesh	1,24,242	1,90,957	9,78,536
31	Uttarakhand	7,368	12,561	39,610
32	West Bengal	2,83,404	6,31,447	2,72,213
Total		28,23,382	35,22,512	29,44,295

Statement referred to in reply of part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*237 for answer on 05-08-2025

State-wise number of weavers/artisans including women under schemes of Handloom and Handicraft sectors during the last five years

Sl. No	State	Weavers benefitted	Artisan benefitted
1	Andhra Pradesh	85,201	17,597
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1,356	2,500
3	Assam	46,120	21,163
4	Bihar	5,968	15,111
5	Chhattisgarh	7,509	4,530
6	Delhi	172	12,965
7	Goa	27	2,120
8	Gujarat	3,192	29,977
9	Haryana	3,514	7,435
10	Himachal Pradesh	2,319	15,136
11	Jammu & Kashmir	4,551	24,987
12	Jharkhand	5,713	9,674
13	Karnataka	25,440	12,894
14	Kerala	17,140	10,331
15	Madhya Pradesh	4,657	42,740
16	Maharashtra	4,515	18,996
17	Manipur	30,009	15,193
18	Meghalaya	494	4,426
19	Mizoram	2,617	2,350
20	Nagaland	1,073	4,730
21	Odisha	34,538	16,210
22	Puducherry	1,520	4,460
23	Punjab	567	9,310
24	Rajasthan	1,465	29,992
25	Sikkim	81	2,310
26	Tamil Nadu	1,25,463	13,806
27	Telangana	44,871	8,984
28	Tripura	1,749	16,230
29	Uttar Pradesh	1,20,818	1,04,054
30	Uttarakhand	5,302	8,315
31	West Bengal	55,964	14,531
32	All India (non-state specific)	1,060	7,263
Total		6,44,985	5,10,320

Besides, 1,810 artisans benefitted in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, 750 in Chandigarh, 50 in Daman & Diu and 3,264 in Ladakh.

Note: 71% of the handloom weaver population and 64% of the artisan population are women hence the maximum benefits are being given to women weavers/artisans.
