

**CRISIS FACED BY TRADITIONAL HANDLOOM WEAVERS**

1610. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the ongoing crisis faced by traditional handloom weavers in Santipur and Phulia of West Bengal, due to competition from powerlooms, lack of marketing support and declining income and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is planning any region-specific revival package or export-linked support scheme for weavers from Santipur and Phulia;
- (c) whether any proposals have been received from the West Bengal Government in this regard; and
- (d) the details of existing or proposed skill development programmes, infrastructure upgradation and technology integration schemes aimed at modernizing the handloom sector in this region?

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

**(a) & (b):** To provide end to end support for development, promotion and revival of handloom sector and ensure welfare of handloom weavers/workers, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes across the country including Santipur and Phulia of West Bengal:

1. National Handloom Development Programme
2. Raw Material Supply Scheme

Under the National Handloom Development Programme, financial assistance is provided to eligible handloom agencies/weavers for procurement of upgraded looms & accessories, solar lighting units, construction of workshed, product & design development, technical and common infrastructure, marketing support for handloom products in domestic/overseas markets, concessional loans under weavers' MUDRA scheme and social security etc.

Under the Raw Material supply Scheme, the Ministry provides transport subsidy for transportation of yarn to the doorstep of the beneficiaries and 15% Price Subsidy on Cotton Hank yarn, Domestic Silk, Woollen & Linen yarn and blended yarn of natural fibres.

**(c) & (d):** On receipt of proposals from the State of West Bengal, the following assistance has been provided to West Bengal including Santipur and Phulia under these schemes during 2014-15 to 2025-26 (as on 30.06.2025):

- (i) 39 handloom clusters including 2 in Santipur, 12 in Nadia district and one mega handloom cluster at Murshidabad have been taken up for financial assistance of Rs.39.10 crore benefitting 30,208 handloom workers including 5,038 weavers provided upgraded looms/accessories under technology upgradation, 1,676 handloom workers have been imparted Skill up-gradation training.

- (ii) 29 marketing events have been organized to facilitate and promote sales of Handloom Products.
- (iii) 12 Handloom Producer companies including 2 in Santipur & one in Phulia have been formed to enhance productivity, marketing capabilities and facilitate better incomes.
- (iv) 43,198 beneficiaries have been provided loans at concessional rates under Weavers' MUDRA Scheme.
- (v) 2,11,550 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana/converged MGBBY and 45,390 beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.
- (vi) Total 101.59 lakh kg of yarn supplied under Transport subsidy & Price subsidy benefitting 54,807 handloom organisations/weavers every year.

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