

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4748
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

DIRECT-BENEFIT TRANSFER TO ARTISANS

4748. SHRI ESWARASAMY K:

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

- (a) whether any suggestion was made to explore ways to transfer the wages directly to the bank accounts of the artisans through Direct-Benefit Transfer (DBT);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to classify artisans as skilled labourers for the purpose of wage and other benefits;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to expand the ambit of social security schemes for the artisans; and
- (e) if so, whether there are any budgetary provisions made for the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) & (b): The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established in 1957 under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956. The primary role of KVIC is to plan, promote, facilitate, organize, and assist in the establishment and development of khadi and village industries across rural areas, thereby generating sustainable employment opportunities and strengthening the rural economy. Khadi Vikas Yojana (KVV) is one the key scheme under the umbrella scheme of Khadi Gramodyog Vikas Yojana (KGVY) for promotion and development of Khadi sector. Modified Market Development Assistance (MMDA) is one of the component of KVV through which financial assistance is given to producing Khadi Institutions, Khadi Artisans and Khadi Karyakartas. To ensure transparent and timely transfer of MMDA to artisans and Karyakartas, KVIC introduced the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system based on bank accounts of the beneficiaries, eliminating intermediaries and ensuring that the intended beneficiaries receive the benefits of the scheme.

(c) to (e): Artisans are supported through financial incentives under the Modified Market Development Assistance (MMDA) Scheme, which are released in proportion to the production undertaken. Khadi activity is a decentralized and normally part time activity in which the earnings of Khadi artisans are based on **piece rate system** which depends on the production capacity of the artisans and also varies according to variety of Khadi they spin or weave, such as cotton Khadi, silk Khadi, muslin Khadi, woolen Khadi, etc. Hence, the earnings cannot be compared with the skilled labours.
