GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6239
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2026

PROMOTION OF KHADI AS SUITABLE TEXTILE

6239. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

(a) whether Khadi fabric is a completely sustainable textile under national and international benchmarks and if so, the details thereof including certifications, environmental impact assessments and comparative data against synthetic fabrics, if not, the extent of its sustainability;
(b) the details of Khadi production volume, water/energy consumption per unit, carbon footprint and waste generation from 2020 to 2026 along with the measures taken to minimize environmental impact, year-wise;
(c) whether lifecycle analyses or scientific studies have been conducted on Khadi's sustainability (from cotton cultivation to garment disposal) and if so, the key findings thereof including biodegradability and recyclability metrics;
(d) the details of Government policies, schemes and financial incentives specifically promoting Khadi as a sustainable textile including budget allocations and employment generation for rural artisans during the last five years and the current year; and
(e) the steps proposed to position Khadi as a global model for sustainable fashion?

ANSWER

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

(a): Khadi is a handspun and handwoven fabric made from natural fibers such as cotton, silk, wool, and their blends, and possesses attributes associated with sustainable textiles under both national and international sustainability parameters, particularly in terms of energy efficiency and resource utilization, as its largely manual production process results in very low energy consumption and a minimal carbon footprint, while the use of natural and biodegradable fibers further reduces environmental impact and supports circularity. Certain varieties of Khadi, such as Ponduru Khadi (Andhra Pradesh), Kala cotton (Gujarat), and silk variants like Tussar and Eri, are produced through traditional and low-input processes that enhance their sustainability profile. Khadi is also dyed using natural dyes, rendering it environmentally friendly enabling Khadi to broadly align with global sustainability principles.

(b) & (c): The details of quantity of Khadi Production during FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 are given below:

Year	**Quantity of Production of Khadi** (in million sq. meters)
2020-21	145.99
2021-22	194.47
2022-23	183.00
2023-24	172.86
2024-25	172.99

Specific assessments have not been undertaken with respect to water and energy consumption per unit, carbon footprint, and waste generation for the period 2020–2026 including life cycle analyses or scientific studies on Khadi's sustainability.

(d): The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), under the umbrella scheme of Khadi and Gramodyog Vikas Yojana (KGVY), is implementing various schemes and programmes to support and promote Khadi activities across the country, including production, sales, marketing, infrastructure, training etc.

(e): The Khadi and Village Industries Commission is undertaking targeted interventions to position Khadi as a global sustainable textile, including focused promotional campaigns with digital outreach, strengthening of quality and environmental standards, and expanded capacity building and handholding support for Khadi Institutions. In this regard, a Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) has been established in collaboration with the National Institute of Fashion Technology under a Hub-and-Spoke model to provide design intervention, product development, capacity building, and support the Khadi products for international market.

In addition, KVIC operates e-commerce portal www.khadiindia.gov.in wherein around 5000 plus various KVI products are on-boarded. This provides digital marketing access to various KVI units.

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