

(a) whether some labour organisations have demanded Rs. 1050/- per month as minimum wages;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the demand; and

(c) if so, the date from which these wages are proposed to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration, which is the appropriate Government under the Minimum Wages Act, have informed that some Labour Organisations have demanded Rs. 1050/- per month as minimum wages and the matter is under their consideration.

[English]

### **Financial crisis faced by Handloom Weavers**

50. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of suicidal deaths of handloom weavers in some parts of the country have come to the notice of Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons that compelled these handloom weavers to commit suicides; and

(c) the steps proposed by Union Government to help these handloom weavers to overcome the financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Reports of some suicidal deaths of handloom weavers in Chirala and certain other parts of Andhra Pradesh have been received by the Central Government. It has been reported that the livelihood of the

handloom weavers in Chirala area has been badly affected due to the slump in demand for lungies.

After obtaining a report from Government of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government was requested to send specific proposals to provide relief to the affected weavers. The Central Government have already released a sum of Rs. 60.00 lakhs as special advance for providing gainful employment to the unemployed weavers as a measure to ameliorate the distress conditions of the handloom weavers in Prakasam and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh.

To examine the possibility of providing export avenues to the products of the Weavers of Chirala, the Central Government has also deputed an officer of Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India, who has placed sample orders with the weavers' agencies in Chirala.

### **Failure to achieve target of Primary Health Centres and Sub Centres**

51. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many State Governments have failed to achieve the targets relating to setting up of Primary Health Centres and sub-centres;

(b) the State-wise targets fixed for setting up of primary health centre and sub-centre and the targets achieved;

(c) the States which have failed to achieve the targets and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps, if any, contemplated to remedy the situation?