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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND
SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

(2025-26)

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

**ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE
FIFTH REPORT (18TH LOK SABHA) OF THE COMMITTEE ON
'DEMAND FOR GRANTS (2025-26)' OF THE MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES.**

NINETEENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2026/ Chaitra, 1948 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 27.03.2026

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2026



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2026/ Chaitra, 1948 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT
(2025-26)**

Shri Basavaraj Bommai – Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

- 2 Shri Mani A.
- 3 Shri G. M. Harish Balayogi
- 4 Shri Aashtikar Patil Nagesh Bapurao
- 5 Shri Partha Bhowmick
- 6 Shri Yogender Chandolia
- 7 Shri Ram Prasad Chaudhary
- 8 Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary
- 9 Shri G. Lakshminarayana
- 10 Shri Asit Kumar Mal
- 11 Shri Kali Charan Munda
- 12 Shri Rudra Narayan Pany
- 13 Shri Kartick Chandra Paul
- 14 Shri Tanuj Punia
- 15 Shri Pradeep Purohit
- 16 Shri Mukesh Rajput
- 17 Shri Raja Ram Singh
- 18 Shri Adhikari Soumendu
- 19 Shri V. K. Sreekandan
- 20 Shri Manoj Tigga
- 21 Shri Chavan Ravindra Vasantryao

RAJYA SABHA

- 22 Shri Ritabrata Banerjee
- 23 Shri Govindbhai Laljibhai Dholakia
- 24 Shri Rajendra Gehlot
- 25 Dr. Syed Naseer Hussain
- 26 Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba
- 27 Dr. Kalpana Saini
- 28 Shri Anthiyur P. Selvarasu
- 29 Shri Abdul Wahab
- 30 Shri Rajinder Gupta
- 31 Shri Gurwinder Singh Oberoi

SECRETARIAT

- 1 Shri Mukesh Kumar Sharma - Joint Secretary
- 2 Ms. K. Muanniang Tunlut - Director
- 3 Ms. Shilpa Kant - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development (2025-26) having been authorized by the Committee, present on their behalf this Nineteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demand for Grants (2025-26)' of the Ministry of Textiles.

2. The Fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 28 March 2025. The Ministry of Textiles furnished their replies on 28 July 2025 indicating Action Taken on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha). The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report at their sitting held on 24 March 2026.

3. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) is given at Appendix-II.

4. For ease of reference, the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold type in the body of the Report.

New Delhi;
24 March 2026
3 Chaitra 1948 (Saka)

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
CHAIRPERSON,
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR,
TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

REPORT
CHAPTER- I

This Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fifth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2025-26)' of the Ministry of Textiles.

2. The Fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha/laid in Rajya Sabha on 28 March 2025. It contained 29 Observations/Recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the Recommendations have been received and are categorized as under:-

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government – Rec. Para Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28 and 29. | Chapter II
Total: 24
Percentage:82.76 |
| (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply – Rec. Para No. 7. | Chapter III
Total: 01
Percentage: 3.45 |
| (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration – Rec. Para No. 13. | Chapter IV
Total: 01
Percentage: 3.45 |
| (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature – Rec. Para Nos. 2, 12 and 27. | Chapter V
Total: 03
Percentage: 10.34 |

3. The Committee desire that Action Taken Notes in respect of the Observations/ Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of this Report, for which interim reply has been given by the Government, be furnished to them at the earliest.

4. The Committee will now deal with some of their earlier Observations/Recommendations which either require reiteration or merit further comments.

I. Concessional Credit/Weavers MUDRA Loans

Recommendation (Para No. 10)

5. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) comprises several Schemes/Programmes for the welfare of Handloom weavers. Concessional credit/weavers MUDRA Loans is one of these schemes covered under NHDP. The Committee had noted that the State-wise MUDRA loan details had been furnished by the Ministry, but the loan disbursement details regarding North Eastern States other than Manipur could not be seen. Taking note of the above fact, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to consider special provisions including relaxed eligibility parameters and shortened sanctioning procedure for the North East as the Mudra loan facility is a critical intervention for the economic and social upliftment of the Handloom weavers.

6. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as under:

“It is submitted that O/o DC (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles is implementing the Concessional Credit/Weaver MUDRA Scheme, under NHDP for handloom sector to meet their credit requirements in a flexible and cost-effective manner across the country including NER States. Under this scheme, eligible handloom weavers are required to approach participating banks and have to submit the loan application along with only one of the following document:

- Pehchan card issued by the O/o DC(Handlooms)
- Yarn passbook
- Identity card issued by the State Government

Further, it is the responsibility of the banks to sanction the loan to eligible handloom beneficiaries on receipt of viable proposals.

Towards covering the more number of handloom beneficiaries, this office is taking continuous efforts with the States/UTs Govt. and the field offices of this office across the country. As a result, the number of loans under the scheme are being increased year by year from 2022-23 to 2024-25. During the FY 2024-25 (upto 31.03.2025), 9211 number of loans have been sanctioned with loan amount of Rs.6984.16 lakh. Out of which, 366 number of loan sanctioned with loan amount of Rs.229.80 lakh in the NER States (324 in Assam with loan amount Rs.208.80 lakh and 42 in Manipur with loan amount Rs.21.00 lakh).

To provide the credit flow in the North Eastern States, this office is focusing to organize more number of awareness camps/chaupals in the NER States and interact with the handloom weavers for dissemination of scheme benefits in due course through the field offices of this office

so as to increase the number of handloom beneficiaries under Mudra loan towards development of economic and social upliftment of the handloom weavers.

Recently also, this office has written a D.O. letter dated 25.03.2025 (copy enclosed) from Secretary (Textiles) to Secretary (Department of Financial Services, M/o Finance to advise all the participating banks to ensure prompt sanctioning and disbursal of loans and to lodge the claims for margin money, interest subvention and credit guarantee fee through the Handloom Weaver Mudra Portal to enhance the scheme's reach and benefits to a greater number of handloom beneficiaries.

Further, this office has also written a D.O. letter dated 15.04.2025 (copy enclosed) to Chairman/CEO/MD/ President of all Scheduled Commercial Banks/State Cooperative Banks/ Regional Rural Banks/ District Central Cooperative Banks with a copy endorsed to Director/Commissioner, In-charge of Handloom Department of all States/UTs Govt. and Officer In-charge of Weavers Service Centres with the request to advise their bank branches down the ladder to ensure prompt sanctioning and disbursal of loans and to lodge claims for margin money, interest subvention and credit guarantee fee through the Handloom Weaver Mudra Portal for all eligible handloom beneficiaries across the country including NER States.”

7. Having noted that the details of loan disbursement under Weaver MUDRA Scheme for the North Eastern (NE) States had been provided only for Manipur, the Committee had recommended for consideration of special provisions including relaxed eligibility parameters and shortened sanctioning procedures for the North East. The Action Taken Reply of the Ministry indicated the existing norms, coverage under the Scheme, the total number of loans sanctioned along with the loan amount including for Assam and Manipur during FY 2024-25, awareness camps/chaupals in NE States, banking procedure, etc., however, the specific concerns raised by the Committee have not been addressed. The Committee attach priority towards ensuring better access to institutional credit for the handloom weavers in the North Eastern Region and reiterate their recommendation for formulating special provisions, relaxed eligibility parameters and shortened sanctioning procedures so that the substantive issue of poor and uneven credit penetration is adequately addressed. The details of loan disbursement in the NE States, other than Assam and Manipur during FY 2024-25 along

with the progressive targets for the next FY may also be furnished. The Committee also find that the onus of sanctioning and disbursing the loans has been placed entirely on banks and impress upon the Ministry to set up a robust institutional mechanism for monitoring the entire process including accountability framework or feedback mechanism to ensure compliance by the lending institutions so that all the eligible handloom weavers in the NER as well as in other parts of the country, are brought under the coverage of the Scheme. The action taken in this regard may be communicated to the Committee at the earliest.

II. Implementation of Wool Sector Schemes in Ladakh

Recommendation (Para No. 13)

8. The Committee had noted that the primary reason for under-utilization of funds in previous years from 2021-24 is the slow progress in project execution by the State Government Implementing Agencies, particularly under the Pashmina Wool Development Scheme in Ladakh. Harsh climatic conditions and prolonged road blockages for 5-6 months have constrained the timely implementation of projects in this region. Further, delay in submission of utilisation certificates under schemes have also hampered speedy utilization of funds. The Committee, taking note of the above fact, had recommended that the Ministry should take up with the Ministry of Finance the aspect of harsh climatic conditions and terrain in areas like Ladakh hindering implementation of schemes of wool sector as they have to adhere to common expenditure guidelines relating to schemes. Ministry of Finance be impressed upon the need for granting relaxation in spending limits and for putting in place tailor made provisions for schemes implemented in areas like Ladakh considering the uniqueness of the conditions on the ground where beneficiaries of the scheme reside.

9. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as follows:

“Due to adverse climatic conditions, the working period in the Ladakh region is from April to October. Accordingly fund allocation under the TASP. Capital and General Head may be provided in accordance with the extant rules and provision to facilitate the IA's utilizing funds in a speedy and timely manners. Further, Ministry of Finance will also be approached for tailor-made provision for schemes implemented in areas like Ladakh during the formulation of new scheme guidelines post 2025-26.”

10. In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry have informed that in addition to the measures to be taken for facilitating the Implementing Agencies in utilizing funds in a speedy and timely manner given the adverse climatic conditions in Ladakh region, the Ministry of Finance would be approached for tailor-made provisions for schemes implemented in the region during formulation of new scheme guidelines post 2025-26 i.e. after the current FY ends. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry as no attempt is being made to resolve the ongoing issues and recurring implementation challenges in the current FY itself. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take immediate and proactive steps in this regard, formulate well-defined proposals for overcoming the challenges and approach the Ministry of Finance for relaxation in spending norms for the FY 2025-26 itself. The status of consultation with the Ministry of Finance in this regard should be apprised to the Committee.

Considering the short working period in Ladakh region i.e. from April to October only, the Committee further desire that periodic review meetings, online monitoring, special disbursement system, etc. should be made use of extensively and all out efforts made to strengthen coordination between the UT administration and the local implementing agencies so that the benefits of the schemes reach the intended beneficiaries in a timely manner.

III. Evaluation of Wool Sector Schemes

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

11. The Committee had noted that CWDB has sanctioned a project to evaluate the current wool sector schemes implemented by various Government agencies across different States. The Committee were of the view that Wool Sector needs special attention of the Government as it is interlinked with the contribution to the overall development of the Textile sector in the country as well as with the livelihood of wool-growers and artisans. Hence, the Committee exhorted that the evaluation and resultant revamping of the Wool sector Schemes should be taken up on priority and completed expeditiously. Owing to the specificities of the sector and the regions where wool is produced in India, the Committee had also impressed upon the Ministry to undertake an effective ground level survey and other similar feedback as part of the review of the schemes.

12. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as under:

“A wool Survey study and Evaluation of existing scheme are under process; except in the UT of Ladakh where at present temperature is below zero degree. The survey and evaluation study will start in the month of May, 2025 for Ladakh Region. Based on the recommendations and report of the said survey, a new wool sector scheme will be finalized”.

13. In pursuance of the Committee’s recommendation for taking up the evaluation and resultant revamping of the wool sector schemes on priority and undertaking an effective ground level survey, the Ministry have stated that a wool survey study and evaluation of existing scheme are under process and based on the recommendations and report of the said survey, a new wool sector scheme would be finalized. The Committee find it surprising that despite the urgent need for revamping of wool sector schemes for the growth and overall development of the textile sector as well as enhanced livelihood of wool-growers and artisans, the Ministry have not mentioned the efforts made to prioritize the survey/evaluation of the existing wool sector scheme. Stressing on

early completion of the evaluation study/survey so that revamping of the wool sector schemes could commence, the Committee urge the Ministry to ensure close monitoring of the progress and apprise them of the current status including in the UT of Ladakh. The name of the agency conducting the survey and stakeholders covered therein should also be intimated to the Committee. The Committee further desire that preparatory groundwork for analyzing the recommendations of the evaluation study/survey report should be in place so that once the report is received, finalization of the new wool sector scheme could be completed expeditiously.

IV. Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

Recommendation (Para No. 19)

14. The Committee had further urged upon the Ministry to organize special awareness programmes, in the areas where Jute is majorly grown and processed, for making the Mill owners aware about the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (A-TUFS) Scheme of the Ministry of Textiles. This scheme would help upgrade existing machinery and install modern looms resulting in overall growth and development of farmers and mill workers. The Committee had also wanted the Ministry to conduct proper R&D in collaboration with the research institutes for developing new innovations for Jute usage. Public Private Partnership should be explored as the mode for advancement in this direction. The Committee had also felt that by the current push of the Government to replace plastic with environment friendly packaging options should be seen as an opportunity and the Ministry should seek out options how jute can fill in the gaps that may be left by plastic bags and other synthetic products. Even legislative interventions like amending the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 and its robust implementation on the ground could be explored to handhold the industry in this endeavour. When it comes to increasing the exports of jute

diversified products, the Committee were of the considered opinion that the Ministry should probe new international markets other than US, UAE, etc.

15. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as under:

“NJB has been actively engaged in prioritization of Research agenda in exploring possibilities of jute in both textile and non-textile applications. In this direction, the on-going 18 R&D projects include as below:

Sl. No	Project Implementing R&D Institutes	Title of the Project	Objectives	Name of the Industry Partner
1	Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA)	Development of Jute Composite for automotive acoustic insulation & other uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To design and develop composite material for automotive acoustic insulation; ii. To conduct trials in real life situation iii. To standardize fibre component and process parameters for this specific use; iv. To attempt for use of jute non-wovens and composites in other automotive parts. 	M/s RFM Automotives Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon.
2	Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA)	Development of a molten metal splash resistance unique jute blended work wear for Steel foundry workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To develop fabrics of various weaves and masses using jute and its blends; ii. To finish these fabrics with 	M/s Mahavir Spinfab, Kanpur

			<p>FR chemicals and their analysis;</p> <p>iii. To determine chemical, mechanical and safety performance properties;</p> <p>iv. To compare existing work-wear fabric with newly developed fabric for safety performance and other properties;</p> <p>v. Techno-commercial feasibility through field trials at the user industry</p>	
3	National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	Nano-technological intervention on jute-geotextile to adapt long term sustainability and enhanced durability for its cost-effective and wide application in flexible pavement systems	<p>i Chemically modification of conventional jute geotextile (JGT) materials to enhance its durability and tensile strength properties;</p> <p>ii. Performance study of the treated JGT as reinforcing layer over the soil sub-grade in flexible pavement system under repeated wheel load;</p> <p>iii. Development of protocols on the</p>	M/s Gloster Ltd, Kolkata.

			<p>application of JGT as geo-material in pavement construction based on experimental and numerical modelling; and</p> <p>iv Economic analysis for pavement construction and lifelong study on overlying the JGT treated soil subgrade.</p>	
4	National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	Development of guidelines to adopt the process of height increment of overburden dumps at open cast coal mines in India using jute-geotextile as reinforcing material	To make scientific guidelines for increasing the height of the overburden dumps at opencast coal mines using jute-geotextiles as reinforcing material through a detailed geotechnical characterization and stability analysis of coal mine overburden dumps in India to meet the techno-economic and operational challenge to go for the most efficient overburden dump design, that is steep enough to be safe and flat enough to be economically acceptable.	M/s Ludlow Jute &Specialities Ltd., Kolkata.

5	Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA)	Development of Jute Composite for application in Prosthetic Leg	<p>i. Development of jute fiber based polymeric prosthetic leg socket as a replacement of existing material by considering the woven jute fiber and needle punched jute fiber</p> <p>ii. Performance evaluation of the jute based prosthetic leg socket developed using different polymeric material on the basis of physical, mechanical and thermal characteristics;</p> <p>iii. Optimization of the developed material based on the performance attributes;</p> <p>iv. Field trial to study the static comfort test and life cycle assessment of prosthetic leg.</p>	Blind People's Association Ahmedabad
6	ICAR-National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology (ICAR-NINFET)	Development of bio-degradable packaging boxes from jute stick and jute pulp for Agri-horticultural products	<p>i. Development of durable boxes from jute sticks for transportation of fruits & vegetables;</p> <p>ii. Development of packaging boxes from paper boards made out of jute pulp (stick & fibre) for high value perishable fruits like mushrooms and strawberries; and</p> <p>iii. Studies on the quality attributes of stores products during</p>	M/s Sheet Kamal Pvt. Ltd.

			transportation and storage.	
7	Wool Research Association (WRA)	Development of Cost Effective Handmade Carpets & Floor Coverings, Home Furnishings & Knitwears using Jute (Treated Woolenised or Untreated) & other natural fibres with value added Eco Friendly Finishes such as with Flame Retardancy, Mosquito Repellent, Anti-Bacterial/Antimicrobial Properties etc.	<p>i. To develop woven/knitted fabrics (union blends or otherwise) using Jute (treated woolenised or untreated) with other natural fibers for home furnishings, handmade carpets and floor coverings;</p> <p>ii. To impart value added multi-functional and eco-friendly finishing such as Flame Retardancy, Mosquito Repellence, and Anti-Bacterial / Antimicrobial Properties, etc. on the developed product for floor coverings, home furnishing & Knitwears application as per requirement;</p> <p>iii. To study and evaluate the performance of the different developed products; and</p> <p>iv. To study the techno commercial feasibility of the developed products</p>	<p>1.M/s VC Vishal Carpets Manufacturer & Exporters of Hand Made Carpets Bhadohi</p> <p>2.M/s Innoleague Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.</p>
8	Government College of Engineering & Textile Technology	Development of jute based composite for non-structural applications	<p>i. To develop different jute based composite structures; and</p> <p>ii. To identify commercially available continuous and discontinuous</p>	M/s Fibro-Plastichem India Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata

			processes and to set the process parameters for manufacturing composite for different end uses	
9	Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute (CPPRI)	Production of Pilot Scale Whole Jute Dissolving Pulp for Viscose Fibre	Pilot Scale study on production of Rayon grade pulp from Whole Jute followed to preparation of viscose fibre.	M/s ABSTCPL Taloja, Maharashtra
10	Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA)	Hybrid Jute Composite Modification and Subsequent Development of Porta Cabin	<p>i. Development of jute fiber-based sandwich panels for porta cabin.</p> <p>ii. Performance evaluation of the developed jute fibre reinforced sandwich composites on the basis of Physical, mechanical and thermal characteristics</p> <p>iii. Development of Numerical simulation model to evaluate the effect of sandwich and analyze the mechanical performance of the jute-based sandwich composites.</p> <p>iv. Optimization of the developed material based on the performance attributes</p>	M/s A. B Composite, Kolkata

			v. Fabrication of porta house as well as study the performance and life cycle assessment of porta house under real environment (Field Trial)	
11	Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar (I.I.T Bhubaneswar)	Mechanistic-Empirical Design of Jute Geotextile Reinforcement Pavements for Rural Roads	Pavement design of jute geotextile reinforced low volume road pavements are being done as per the guidelines given in IRC: SP: 126: 2019. However, it is not based on any pavement performance data. Mechanistic-empirical designs are considered to be the most appropriate pavement design approach across the globe. Considering the need to collect systematic pavement performance data for such roads, the objective of this study is to support construction of low volume road pavements under PMGSY using Jute geotextiles, evaluate their pavement performance for a long time and develop mechanistic-empirical based design charts for low volume roads	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Birla, Kolkata.

			using jute geotextiles.	
12	National Institute of Technology Karnataka	Technology Development and Engineering Performance Evaluation of Jute Geocells for Slope Stabilization and Pavement Applications	<p>i. To develop a technology to manufacture geocells from Jute yarn/fiber;</p> <p>ii. To do material characterization of jute geocell by conducting various laboratory tests and standardizing jute geocells in line with BIS standards for various field applications;</p> <p>iii. To establish the performance evaluation of natural jute geocells through model tests in the lab; and</p> <p>iv. Filed implementation of jute geocells at two different sites to demonstrate the viability of the proposed geocells for various applications.</p>	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Kolkata.
13	ICAR-National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology (ICAR-NINFET)	Development of modern mini-spinning machinery for processing of jute and allied fibres for small industries	<p>i. To study the economic viability of proposed machines to be developed viz-a- viz existing machinery for different range of yarn count of jute and allied fibres.</p> <p>ii. To design and fabricate suitable mini-carding, mini-drawing and mini-spinning machinery system for processing jute and allied fibres</p>	M/s Bhowmick Calculators, Kolkata.

			iii. To evaluate the spinning performance of the developed machine for the production of jute and allied fibre-based yarn.	
14	Indian Institute of Science Bangalore	Evaluation for Filtration Characteristics of Jute Geotextiles	i. To evaluate the physical and hydraulic characteristics of jute geotextiles and subgrade soils ii. To perform laboratory one-dimensional flow filtration tests To evaluate the filtration characteristics based on the retention, hydraulic conductivity, and clogging requirements.	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Kolkata.
15	Indian Jute Industries Research Association	Exploration of usage of Engineered Jute and Agro-waste based Agrotexiles for Improving Farmers' Income on their Produce	Innovation of novel textile engineering-based jute and agro-waste blended Agrotexiles with an aim to find out their effectiveness for improving agriculture productivity	M/s Kamarhati Jute Mill, Kolkata and M/s Ambica Jute Mill, Howrah.
16	Indian Institute of Science Bangalore	Application of Jute Geotextiles in Reinforcing the Retaining Walls for Static and Seismic Stability	i. Building lab-scale retaining walls reinforced with jute geotextiles and jute geocells; ii. Understanding the performance of jute reinforced retaining walls under static and seismic loading conditions with flexible and rigid facing of the walls;	M/s Engosyam Consultants

			<p>iii. Understanding the shear strength of jute geotextile-sand, and jute geocell-sand interfaces and correlating it to the performance of the reinforced retaining walls; and</p> <p>iv. Quantifying the performance benefits of jute geotextile reinforcement.</p>	
17	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	Development of Jute Clay Liners (JCL) for Waste Containment Applications	<p>i. To understand the influence of the quality of the jute geotextile (different GSMs of the jute geotextiles), quality and gradation of the used bentonites, and type of the bonding used for JCL preparation;</p> <p>ii. To understand the hydraulic characteristics of the proposed JCLs under different inorganic salts and heavy metal solutions;</p> <p>iii. To understand the diffusion characteristics of the proposed JCLs with different inorganic salts and heavy metal solutions; and</p> <p>iv. To understand the soil water</p>	M/s Birla Jute Mill, kolkata.

			characteristics of proposed JCLs and its comparison with the existing GCLs with synthetic geotextiles.	
18	The Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad	Industrial scale up of biodegradable, non-polymer super-hydrophobic jute fabric exhibiting excellent water repellency & stiffness for shopping/hand bag products	<p>The aim of proposed project is to develop cheap, durable, sustainable & biodegradable water repellent and stiff coatings to improve the longevity of jute fabrics and yarn. The followings are the main objectives of the proposed work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Improvement of water-repellency and stiffness of jute yarn and fabric II. Examine the jute after modification through wetting, surface morphology, chemical, mechanical, physical characteristics III. Examination of durability, biodegradation and sustainability of jute after 	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Kolkata.

			<p>modification</p> <p>IV. Assessment of jute applications after modifications (eg. self-cleaning, anti-stain, antibacterial, and anti-fungal)</p> <p>V. Quality and life assessment of coated jute based prototype items (hand and shopping bags)</p> <p>VI. Cost analysis of the coating at lab scale</p> <p>VII. Up-scaling the process and industrial trial</p>	
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Various Textile Research Associations viz. NITRA, ATIRA, NIT, NINFET, WRA have been assigned with the R&D Projects.

Increasing Exports of Jute Diversified Products:

During 2023-24, Exports of Jute Diversified Products from India were mainly to: USA, (28%), France (18%), UK (8%), The Netherlands (5%), Spain (5%), Australia (4%), Germany (4%), Belgium (3%), UAE (2%), Sweden (2%). All these top 10 countries accounted for 79 % of total value of Jute Diversified Products exported. Thus, USA and EU are the major countries importing Jute Diversified Products from India.

NJB, as measure for export promotion of Jute Diversified Products has identified Focus and Emerging Markets including Latin American countries, Australia & New Zealand and included in its International Marketing Plan to organise participation of Regd. Jute Exporters in Export Promotion Events viz. Trade Fairs, BSMs, Business Delegation, Conference etc.”

16. Upon scrutiny of the reply of the Ministry, the Committee find no specific initiatives taken on their recommendation for organizing special awareness programmes for mill owners/farmers regarding the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (ATUFS) Scheme, the manner in which jute can fill the gap left by plastic bags and other synthetic products and the steps taken to explore amendment in the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 and its robust implementation on the ground. Being of the view that the Ministry had shown a casual approach towards the concerns raised by them, the Committee urge for concrete measures to be taken to promote the ATUFS Scheme by organizing special awareness programmes so that the benefits of the Scheme percolate to the mill workers and farmers. The data regarding beneficiaries, outreach activities, fund utilization, etc. under the Scheme may also be appraised. On the issue of utilizing jute and its products to replace plastic bags, the Committee desire that R&D projects commissioned by the Ministry should align with the national initiatives such as plastic substitution, green packaging and circular economy, etc. The Committee further desire that a comprehensive Jute Packaging Expansion Strategy should be worked out to exploit the demand created by restrictions on single-use plastics and the progress made in this regard communicated to the Committee.

V. PM-MITRA Scheme

Recommendation (Para Nos. 22 and 23)

17. The Committee had noted that budget is allocated under Capital and Revenue Heads for PM-MITRA Scheme and the allocations under Capital Head have been utilized in full. The Ministry had sought BE of ₹ 300.00 crore in 2024-25 which was slashed down to ₹ 44.00 crore at RE stage. Actual

Expenditure under the Scheme stood at ₹ 24.51 crore as on 25.02.2025. The Committee were concerned to find that the funds under Revenue Head could not be utilized during 2024-25 fiscal as these funds are supposed to be released to the seven State Governments, only once they fulfill certain criteria including selection of Master Developer. As none of the States had selected the Master Developer for the PM MITRA Parks, the Government of India share could not be released to them; hence there was a shortfall in utilization. This important Scheme was launched for a period of seven years from 2021-22 to 2027-28 FY. Taking note of the above facts, the Committee had expressed their concern that even after passage of five years, only 7 sites in the 7 States were approved, even the construction had not started at all the sites and every year the funds allocated for this purpose went unutilized as in 2023-24 wherein ₹0.13 crore was the AE vis-à-vis ₹ 52.30 crore RE. The Committee reckoned that PM MITRA is one of the most ambitious and prestigious schemes envisioned by the Prime Minister. It *prima facie* appeared to the Committee that the lack of initiative by the States in providing requisite infrastructure and planning was one of the reasons for the Parks not becoming a reality. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that the Ministry should take up this matter with the concerned 7 State Governments on priority and pursue them to appoint a Master Developer within a definite time-line provided by the Ministry. The Committee understood that there are difficulties emerging at grass-root level which the State Governments have to deal with while completing these Parks. But, considering the significance attributed to the Scheme, the Committee had recommended that a Special Task Force of the representatives of the Central and State Governments should be formed to analyse the teething issues faced by the scheme and to suggest practical solutions. Further the Task Force should also monitor the progress of PM MITRA Parks and to handhold the States to complete the construction of the Parks in the least possible time. This would also ensure that the total outlay fixed for the Scheme could be utilised and PM MITRA Parks start functioning and provide much needed fillip to the Textile Sector.

18. The Committee had expected that the funds of ₹ 300.00 crore at BE stage in FY 2025-26 would not go unutilized in the ensuing financial year as

these Parks form part of the vision of future by our PM with the aim of developing integrated large scale and modern industrial infrastructure facility for total value-chain of the textile industry and are required to be set up by 2027-28 with the total expenditure of ₹ 4445.00 crore. Further, the Committee had desired to be apprised of the total amount utilized out of ₹ 4445.00 crore since the launch of the Scheme till date.

19. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as under:

“As regards approval of only 7 PM MITRA Parks, it may be noted that as per Cabinet Note, only 7 sites (Greenfield/Brownfield) are to be selected for establishment of PMMITRA Parks for which Rs. 4445 crore has been sanctioned for 7 years. All States were requested to submit proposals for establishing PM MITRA Park in their respective States. In response, 18 proposals from 13 States were received. Based on the criteria laid in scheme guideline, 7 sites (5 Greenfield and 2 Brownfield) were finalized. hence the deemed action as per scheme guideline has been completed and there is no laxity or shortfall on this count.

Special Task Force: In so far as monitoring is concerned, Project Approval Committee already exists to guide and oversee implementation of the parks. The composition of PAC is as under :

- i. Secretary, M/o Textiles-Chairman
- ii. Financial Advisor, M/o Textiles –Member
- iii. AS/JS, M/o Textiles-Member
- iv. Representatives of DPIIT and NITI Aayog

In addition, the SPV Boards include senior State representatives also have been created to guide and monitor the progress of the parks. So far, 8 meetings of PAC has been held.

As regards constitution of Special Task Force, it may be noted that the project is being led by a Special Purpose Vehicle. Secretary(Textiles), Government of India is Chairperson of the Board of Directors of SPV and Secretary(Industry/Textiles) of State concerned is Chief Executive Officer of the SPV. SPV is responsible for overall development, governance and administration of the park. Under PM MITRA, a total of Rs. 24.63 crore has been utilized in 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Considerable progress has been made after the selection of the sites. The details of State wise progress made is as under:

GREENFIELD PROJECTS

(a) Gujarat

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt signed
- SPV named “PM Mitra Park Gujarat Limited” incorporated.
- 100% land acquired and Land transferred in the name of SPV.
- Environment Clearance (EC) received on 19.02.2024.
- RFP for onboarding of Master Developer for development of PM MITRA Park in Gujarat made live on n-procure website from 27.11.2024. Pre bid meeting held on 24.12.2024.
- Investor Sentiment Survey conducted by GIDC from potential investors.
- Stakeholders’ engagement carried out with Textile Industry Body Associations, Investors, Ministry of Textiles, and Entrepreneurs & Industry Experts for Development of PM MITRA Park.

(b) Uttar Pradesh

- Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt signed
- SPV named (PM MITRA Park Uttar Pradesh Ltd.) incorporated on 10.10.2023.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Uttar Pradesh has transferred the land to the SPV on 23.02.2023.
- Environmental Clearance (EC) for the project site granted on 15.07.2024.
- The clearance for the extracting ground water obtained on 01.07.2024.
- Road widening work of 5.8 KM has been completed till park gate
- Government of Uttar Pradesh has received investment intentions of Rs. 4120.85 Crores from 81 Investors, potentially creating Approx. 36,480 jobs opportunities.

(c) Madhya Pradesh

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt been signed.
- SPV named (PM MITRA Park Madhya Pradesh Ltd.) incorporated on 02.01.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Land transfer order been issued.
- Park layout plan prepared.
- Received intentions to invest worth Rs. 10,547/- Crs from 30 investors.
- The Competent authority has accorded in-principle approval to the proposal of the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for implementation of PM MITRA park scheme through the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh subject to certain condition.

(d) Tamil Nadu

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt has been signed.
- SPV (PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park Tamil Nadu Limited) incorporated on 20.02.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Tamil Nadu is in process of transferring land to SPV (PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park Tamil Nadu Limited)
- Environmental Clearance (EC) obtained on 31.07.2023.
- 11 MoUs signed with prospective investors in the PM MITRA Park for a total investment amount of 1231 crores thereby creating 6,315 job opportunities.
- The PAC agreed in principle to the GoI's Proposal for implementing the PM MITRA park scheme through the GoI (which in turn would utilise the services of SIPCOT- an undertaking wholly owned by Government of Tamil Nadu), subject to certain conditions.

(e) Karnataka

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt has been signed.
- SPV (PM MITRA PARK KARNATAKA LIMITED) formed on 27.03.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Karnataka Transferred Land to SPV on 22.10.2024
- 8 MoUs for investment of Rs. 1700 Crore signed by Govt of Karnataka.

BROWNFIELD PROJECTS

(f) Telangana

- Park is in operation
- Total Investments as on date – Rs. 2694 crores
- MoU (including amendments) between GoI and Govt. of Telangana signed.
- Implementing Agency: Government of Telangana through its State Implementing Agency (SIA) i.e. Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC).
- Environmental Clearance (EC) is available.

(g) Maharashtra

- MoU between GoI and Govt. of Maharashtra signed
- Implementing Agency: Government of Maharashtra through its State Implementing Agency (SIA) i.e. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC)
- The tender for the infrastructure Development worth Rs. 111 cr finalized and work order issued.
- 5 MoUs totalling to the investment of INR 1,370 Cr. signed.

- The Foundation stone to the park was laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister in September 2024.”

20. The Committee express concern at the slow pace of progress in the implementation of the PM-MITRA Scheme which was launched for a period of seven years from 2021-22 to 2027-28 with a total allocation of ₹ 4445 crore. The Action Taken Reply of the Ministry indicate that even after five years of its launch, the PM-MITRA Park is in operation only in the State of Telangana while production has not commenced in the remaining six Parks in Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Regarding the expenditure incurred so far under Scheme, a total of ₹ 24.63 crore has been utilized in 2023-24 and 2024-25, a mere fraction of the total allocation under the Scheme. The Committee emphasize the need for boosting India's textile industry through integration of the textile value chain, creation of world-class integrated manufacturing hubs, attracting investment, promoting exports, generating large scale employment, etc. and urge the Ministry to ensure the early completion and operationalization of the remaining PM-MITRA Parks. The Committee express serious concern that, even after a lapse of four years, the Ministry have not undertaken adequate result-oriented measures to ensure the timely operationalisation of the PM- MITRA Parks. The Committee, therefore, strongly urge the Ministry to impress upon all State Textile Secretaries to take up this matter with utmost priority and in right earnest. They should ensure the preparation of comprehensive and up-to-date reports detailing the various stages of implementation of these Parks in their respective States. Such reports may be furnished to the Committee in advance of, or during, the meeting scheduled to be held in the near future for a detailed review of progress. The Committee also recommend that the monitoring mechanism under the Scheme should be strengthened and monthly review of the progress of the Parks should be conducted. The Committee further desire that an action plan be worked out to address the issue of underutilization of funds and other delays in the implementation of the Scheme so that all the PM-MITRA Parks are made functional, production is commenced and optimum utilization of the budgetary allocation is achieved within the

given period of the Scheme i.e. by 2027-28. The progress in utilization of the budgetary allocation and status of the Parks should also be intimated to the Committee at periodic intervals.

VI. Production Linked Incentive Scheme

Recommendation (Para No. 27)

21. The Committee had noted that Ministry of Textiles had submitted two proposals *viz.* PLI 1.2 for expansion of Harmonized System (HS) lines under MMF Apparel and MMF fabrics and PLI 2 for apparel/garments, made-ups and textiles accessories for making the Scheme more comprehensive. The Committee finding the fact that these proposals are still under consideration, want that the Ministry should take measures to expedite the finalization/approval of these proposal. The Committee had also wanted that the Ministry should take well-focused steps to increase the number of PLI companies so to promote competitiveness and foreign investments in our domestic textile industries. Further, the Committee had taken note of reports that the Government is pondering over a decision whether or not to continue with the PLI Scheme further. Though facts on this matter have not been placed before the Committee, it is observed that the continuance of PLI Scheme or an appropriate alternative for Textile Sector would be crucial for facilitating its growth in the country.

22. The Ministry of Textiles, in their Action Taken Note furnished to the Committee, have stated as under:

“The proposal for PLI 1.2 for expanding coverage of items under the scheme has been shared with DPIIT which is consolidating all PLI schemes. Further additional comments to DPIIT are under finalization. Draft Cabinet note on PLI 2.0 scheme for Textiles was shared with Cabinet on 10.12.2024 on which further comments have been received. These are under consultation, for scheme finalization.

Ministry has recently issued a comprehensive list of HSN codes covered under Technical Textile segments. PLI for textiles scheme has a projected investment of Rs. 28,711 crore by selected applicants. As noted by Committee, a 3rd window for inviting applications under the scheme has been opened. This was in light of the industry requests from MMF fabrics & Technical Textiles.”

23. The Committee note the reply of the Ministry that additional comments to DPIIT regarding the proposal for Production Linked Incentive (PLI) 1.2 for expanding coverage of items under the Scheme, are under finalization. In respect of PLI 2.0 Scheme shared with Cabinet, further comments received are under consultation for finalization of the Scheme. The Ministry have also opened a 3rd window for inviting applications under PLI for textiles Scheme on the requests of the industry from MMF fabrics & Technical Textiles. The Committee note with concern that the proposals regarding PLI 1.2 and PLI 2.0 are still pending due to delay on the part of the Ministry in finalizing their comments. Stressing the urgency of implementing a comprehensive PLI Scheme for the growth of the textile industry and creation of employment, the Committee urge the Ministry to complete all consultations on the PLI Schemes and obtain the requisite approval without further delay. The corrective action taken to increase the number of PLI companies in the country may also be apprised to the Committee with due promptitude.

CHAPTER-II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Para No. 1)

The Committee note that in 2023-24, the Ministry of Textiles had put forth BE of ₹ 4389.34 crore which was revised at RE Stage to ₹ 3443.09 crore and Actual Expenditure could only reach 88.85% of RE, i.e. ₹ 3059.25 crore. It constituted 69.70% of BE. In the current FY 2024-25 BE was ₹ 4417.03 crore which was revised to ₹ 3342 crore at RE stage and up till 23.02.2025 only ₹ 2698.57 crore were utilized which is only 61.09% of BE and 80.75% of RE. The Committee express their concern over this shortfall in utilization and expenditure of remaining budgetary allocation till 31 March 2025. The Ministry, however, assured the Committee that all possible efforts are being made by the Ministry for optimal utilization of funds during 2024-25. The Committee expressed their concern over expenditure of remaining budgetary allocation which is to the tune of around 40% of BE to which the Ministry informed the Committee that all possible efforts for optimal utilization of funds as per the instructions/guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance are being made. Taking into consideration the fact that funds to the tune of around 20 per cent of RE and 40 per cent of BE are left to be utilized within the last one month of FY, The Committee urge upon the Ministry to make all concerted efforts to utilize the funds under their respective heads by the end of the year and stick to their commitment.

Reply of the Government

Ministry has taken a number of steps for the optimum utilization of allocated funds. These included continuous monitoring of expenditure by the Senior Officers and the matter is also being discussed in weekly senior officers Meetings. However, the Ministry utilized the funds to the tune of 96.83% of RE allocation at the end of the March 2025 i.e. 3235.90 crore out of RE allocation Rs. 3342.00 for FY 2024-25.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 3)

The Committee note that Ministry of Textiles have been granted BE of ₹ 5272.00 crore for 2025-26 fiscal. Although the Ministry have assured that they are planning to spend more funds effectively during the next FY 2025-26, the Committee, nevertheless, recommend the Ministry to take corrective

measures to deal with the hurdles like non-receipt of viable proposals and shifting of fund flow mechanism to CNA model as prescribed by the Ministry of Finance under the Schemes of PM MITRA and NTTM respectively so that optimum utilization of budgetary funds can take place in the current year as well as in ensuing fiscals.

Reply of the Government

In this connection, Ministry is taking proactive steps such as in weekly Senior Officers Meetings, the issue of non-receipt of viable proposals and shifting of fund flow mechanism to CNA models is being monitored effectively. The Ministry is following the instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance w.r.t CNA/TSA from time to time. However, the Ministry has noted the recommendations of Committee for future compliance.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 4)

Further, the Committee observe that the reduction of BE funds of ₹ 4417.00 crore to ₹ 3342.00 crore at RE stage in 2024-25 was mainly under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (ATUFS) Scheme, National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP), National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) due to various reasons such as non-receipt of viable proposals, delay in procurement process etc. Taking note of the fact that this is the reason which led to improper and less utilization which resulted in reduction of funds at RE stage, the Committee are of the considered view that Ministry should address these issues with strategic intervention and pragmatic approach so that at least the funds allocated at RE stage could be utilized in full in the current FY.

Reply of the Government

In this regard, Ministry has taken various steps for optimum utilization of funds during the current financial year .The Ministry has prepared Quarterly Expenditure Plan & Monthly Expenditure Plan to deal with any shortfall in utilization of the funds. However, the Ministry has noted the observations of Committee for future compliance.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 5)

COTTON SECTOR

Cotton is one of the most important cash crops and accounts for around 23% of the total global fibre production. The consumption of cotton is approximately 326 lakh bales (170 kg each) per year. India occupies first position in the world in cotton acreage with 113.60 lakh hectares under cotton cultivation which is around 36% of the world area of 316.20 lakh hectares. During Cotton season, 2024-25 India's productivity is around 448kg/ha. India has emerged one of the largest producers, consumers and exporters of cotton in the World. The Committee note that Cotton Corporation of India, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Textiles, is the nodal agency of Government of India for undertaking MSP operations in the event of prevailing seed cotton (kapas) prices fall below the MSP level. During the current Cotton season 2024-25, as on 31.12.2024, CCI has procured 55.80 lakh bales valuing ₹ 21,451 crore under MSP operations, benefitting about 10.50 lakh cotton farmers in all cotton growing States. The Committee are concerned to note that BE in 2024-25 was revised to ₹ 1,00,000 only and that too was not utilized at all and BE for 2025-26 is also only ₹ 1,00,000. The Committee were apprised that this NIL utilization was due to an EFC Note for reimbursing the losses in MSP operations for cotton to CCI during the cotton years 2022-23 to 2024-25 was prepared and circulated to concerned Ministries for comments. The discussion on EFC is currently under process. The Committee were also informed that the funds requirement would be requested in upcoming FYs based on the approval of EFC/CCEA. The Ministry also informed that this ₹ 1,00,000 could also not be utilized in the current fiscal as the above said proposal is under process. Taking note of this fact, the Committee expressed their concern and urged upon the Ministry to pursue the Department/Wing related with the finalization of this proposal and come up to a conclusion expeditiously. As the allocated funds under Cotton sector are for the benefit of a large section of cotton farmers, the Committee desire that the Ministry should increase their demands for budgetary funds under this sector and also make serious efforts to optimally utilize them.

Reply of the Government

A proposal was prepared for reimbursement of losses to Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), incurred after sale of cotton procured from farmers at MSP. It was observed that the proposal would require the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). Hence, an Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) note for reimbursing losses in MSP operations for cotton to CCI during the cotton years 2023-24 to 2024-25 was prepared and circulated to concerned Ministries for comments. The discussion is currently under process. Therefore, the amount of Rs.600 crores allocated in BE 2024-

25 have been reduced to Rs. 1 lakh in RE 2024-25. The fund requirement will be requested in Financial Year 2025-26 based on the approval of EFC/ CCEA Note.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

The Committee find that in pursuance of their recommendation given in their earlier Report on 'Development of Cotton Sector', the Ministry have taken initiative for providing Science and Technology support to cotton farmers to enhance productivity and sustainability of cotton farming and promote extra-long staple cotton varieties which would consequently help in increasing incomes of the farmers and ensure a steady supply of quality cotton for rejuvenating India's traditional textile sector. This cotton mission comprises three Mini-Missions over a period of five years. It was informed by the Ministry that further course of action for implementing the Mission is being deliberated with Department of Agricultural Research & Education which is the nodal Ministry in this case. The Committee appreciate the efforts taken by the Ministry in this direction and hope that the Ministry of Textiles would ensure proper coordination and collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Research & Education which is the need of the hour for effective and successful implementation of the Cotton Mission.

Reply of the Government

The layout of the Cotton Productivity Mission is currently being developed in close consultation with key stakeholders to revitalize India's cotton and textile sector. The implementation timelines for the mission have been finalized in active coordination with the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE).

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

The Committee, during the examination of previous year's Demands for Grants (2024-25), had recommended making the enrolment of Handloom workers/artisans mandatory under PMJJBY/PMSBY under Handloom Weavers' Welfare Scheme of NHDP. The Ministry have informed that the enrolment of handloom weavers/workers under PMJJBY & PMSBY has increased from 0.70 lakh in policy year 2022-23 to 1.35 lakh in policy year 2023-24 and 1.33 lakh weavers in 2024-25 (up to 31.01.2025). The Committee also learn that State Directorates of Handlooms and its

subordinate offices in the field are Nodal Agency for implementation of the Scheme. The Nodal Agency will act for and on behalf of the insured members in all matters relating to insurance cover. The target fixed by the Government of India is also purely based on the targets indicated by the State Governments. As Office of DC (Handlooms) is responsible for implementing the welfare Schemes under Handloom Sector, the Committee urge the Ministry that Office of DC (Handlooms) should make more coordinated efforts with the State Directorate of Handlooms to spread awareness about these two insurance Schemes amongst the Handloom weavers. Though the Committee is appreciative of the efforts taken up by the Ministry as the number of beneficiaries are rising every year since 2022-23, it is felt that the Ministry have a long way to go as there are nearly 35 lakh weavers working under this sector and only around 3.38 lakh are covered in the last three years including 2024-25. As the aim is to cover more and more Handloom weavers under the insurance Schemes, therefore the Committee desire that the Ministry should establish proper coordination with the State/UT Governments to ensure better coverage of handloom weavers under these insurance Schemes.

Reply of the Government

It is submitted that this office is continuously making the rigorous efforts and taking up the matter with the States/UTs Govt. towards increasing the number of handloom weavers/workers to provide the insurance cover under PMJJBY & PMSBY across the country. As a result, the number of enrolment are being increased year by year from the policy year 2022-23 to 2024-25 and it has reached upto 1.89 lakh weavers/workers enrolled during the current policy year 2024-25 (upto 31.03.2025) under these schemes.

Recently also, in order to enroll/cover more number of handloom beneficiaries, this office has taken-up the matter with Commissioner/Director (In-charge of Handlooms) of all States/UTs Govt. through virtual meeting held on 06.03.2025, impressing upon them to organize more awareness camps/chaupals and interact with handloom weavers to generate awareness about benefits of schemes and also take rigorous efforts to mobilize more number of applications to banks for improving the performance of the schemes.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 9)

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)

There are ten Schemes/programmes run under NHDP by the Ministry of Textiles such as Small Cluster Development Programme (SCDP), Handloom Marketing Assistance (HMA), Mega Cluster Development Programme, Handloom Weavers' Welfare, etc. The Committee note that ₹ 189.49 crore had been utilized as on 25.02.2025 against the RE 2024-25 of ₹ 198.84 crore

under NHDP. The Ministry are expecting full utilisation of RE amount in the current fiscal. The Committee, therefore, hope that the Ministry would make concerted efforts and utilise the entire earmarked budget under this head.

Reply of the Government

Under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), the Ministry have utilized Rs.195.51 crore out of RE of Rs.195.84 crore during FY 2024-25.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 10)

Concessional credit/weavers MUDRA Loans Scheme under NHDP

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) comprises several Schemes/Programmes for the welfare of Handloom weavers. Concessional credit/weavers MUDRA Loans is one of these schemes covered under NHDP. The Committee note that the State-wise MUDRA loan details have been furnished by the Ministry, but the loan disbursement details regarding North Eastern States other than Manipur cannot be seen. Taking note of the above fact, the Committee recommend the Ministry to consider special provisions including relaxed eligibility parameters and shortened sanctioning procedure for the North East as the Mudra loan facility is a critical intervention for the economic and social upliftment of the Handloom weavers.

Reply of the Government

It is submitted that O/o DC (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles is implementing the Concessional Credit/Weaver MUDRA Scheme, under NHDP for handloom sector to meet their credit requirements in a flexible and cost-effective manner across the country including NER States. Under this scheme, eligible handloom weavers are required to approach participating banks and have to submit the loan application along with only one of the following documents:

- Pehchan card issued by the O/o DC(Handlooms)
- Yarn passbook
- Identity card issued by the State Government

Further, it is the responsibility of the banks to sanction the loan to eligible handloom beneficiaries on receipt of viable proposals.

Towards covering the more number of handloom beneficiaries, this office is taking continuous efforts with the States/UTs Govt. and the field offices of this office across the country. As a result, the number of loans under the

scheme are being increased year by year from 2022-23 to 2024-25. During the FY 2024-25 (up to 31.03.2025), 9211 number of loans have been sanctioned with loan amount of Rs.6984.16 lakh. Out of which, 366 number of loans sanctioned with loan amount of Rs.229.80 lakh in the NER States (324 in Assam with loan amount Rs.208.80 lakh and 42 in Manipur with loan amount Rs.21.00 lakh).

To provide the credit flow in the North Eastern States, this office is focusing to organize more number of awareness camps/chaupals in the NER States and interact with the handloom weavers for dissemination of scheme benefits in due course through the field offices of this office so as to increase the number of handloom beneficiaries under Mudra loan towards development of economic and social upliftment of the handloom weavers.

Recently also, this office has written a D.O. letter dated 25.03.2025 (copy enclosed) from Secretary (Textiles) to Secretary (Department of Financial Services, M/o Finance to advise all the participating banks to ensure prompt sanctioning and disbursement of loans and to lodge the claims for margin money, interest subvention and credit guarantee fee through the Handloom Weaver Mudra Portal to enhance the scheme's reach and benefits to a greater number of handloom beneficiaries.

Further, this office has also written a D.O. letter dated 15.04.2025 (copy enclosed) to Chairman/CEO/MD/ President of all Scheduled Commercial Banks/State Cooperative Banks/ Regional Rural Banks/ District Central Cooperative Banks with a copy endorsed to Director/Commissioner, In-charge of Handloom Department of all States/UTs Govt. and Officer In-charge of Weavers Service Centres with the request to advise their bank branches down the ladder to ensure prompt sanctioning and disbursement of loans and to lodge claims for margin money, interest subvention and credit guarantee fee through the Handloom Weaver Mudra Portal for all eligible handloom beneficiaries across the country including NER States.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.
Please see Para No. 7 of Chapter-I

Recommendation (Para No. 11)

HANDICRAFTS SECTOR

The handicrafts sector plays a significant role in the country's economy. It provides employment to a vast segment of craft persons in rural & semi urban areas and serves as a pivotal driver of substantial foreign exchange earnings for the country, while concurrently preserving our rich cultural heritage. The Committee are concerned to note that in FY 2024-25, only ₹ 137.68 crore were utilised till January 2025 vis-à-vis RE of 206.80 crore

which amounted to around 66 per cent which indicates that around 44 per cent of the allocated funds were to be utilised within the last quarter of the financial year under Handicrafts Sector. Also, under the Scheme of National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP), the utilisation was much less than expected i.e ₹ 108.94 crore out of RE of ₹ 175.00 crore till January 2025. The Ministry attributed this delay in utilisation of funds to the mandatory transition from Central Nodal Agency (CNA) module for fund flow for Central Schemes (CS) and Central Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to the Treasury Single Account Module, which was under process during the first three quarters of FY 2024-25. Transition to TSA Module had taken time which could be fully implemented in the second week of December 2024, causing delay in release of grants resulting in less utilisation of funds. The Committee find that this is one of the reasons repeated under many Schemes by the Ministry causing under-utilisation. The Committee opine that though it may be a better system of accounting, such procedural matters should have never come in the way of implementation of Schemes/Programmes of the Government. The Committee take strong exception to such avoidable reasons causing sub-optimal performance of schemes, especially those that are intended for weavers, artisans and handicraft sector that needs focussed handholding and recommend that causes of this nature should not be allowed to encumber the efficient implementation of schemes.

Reply of the Government

During the financial year 2024-25 Rs.170.64 crore were utilised against the Final RE of 175.74 crore which is around 97% of the total RE grant under Handicrafts sector. For proper Utilisation of funds during the year 2025-26 proposals for the implementation of programmes/projects under National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) are being invited through online portal developed by the office of DC (Handicrafts) and sufficient number of Proposals for NHDP has already been received for improving the efficient implementation of schemes & proper utilization of funds.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

Further, the Committee are of the considered opinion that the fact now Ladakh is a UT and not a State should allow more leverage to the Ministry of Textiles to take up the problem of slow progress in project execution by the UT Government Implementing Agencies, particularly under the Pashmina Wool Development Scheme in Ladakh. The Committee accordingly recommend that the Ministry of Textiles should take up this matter with the UT Government of Ladakh and if needed, with the Ministry of Home Affairs so that the wool producers are able to fully avail the benefits of the Scheme.

Reply of the Government

This Ministry has taken up the matter regarding the slow implementation of Wool Projects by IAs with the UT Government of Ladakh.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

The Committee note that CWDB has sanctioned a project to evaluate the current Wool Sector schemes implemented by various government agencies across different States. The Committee are of the view that Wool Sector needs special attention of the Government as it is interlinked with the contribution to the overall development of the Textile sector in the country as well as with the livelihood of wool-growers and artisans. Hence the Committee exhort that the evaluation and resultant revamping of the Wool sector Schemes shall be taken up on priority and completed expeditiously. Owing to the specificities of the sector and the regions where wool is produced in India, the Committee also impress upon the Ministry to undertake an effective ground level survey and other similar feedback as part of the review of the Schemes.

Reply of the Government

A wool Survey study and Evaluation of existing scheme are under process; except in the UT of Ladakh where at present temperature is below zero degree. The survey and evaluation study will start in the month of May, 2025 for Ladakh Region. Based on the recommendations and report of the said survey, a new wool sector scheme will be finalized.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.

Please see Para No. 13 of Chapter-I.

Recommendation (Para No. 16)

SILK SECTOR

The Committee note that to assess the impact of Silk Samagra-2 Scheme in the field and to suggest mid-course corrections / modification in the scheme implementation, a Mid-term evaluation study through a third party, is under progress. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the revamping of the Scheme has to be completed on preferential basis and unique requirements of the silk producing areas like the North East shall be taken into account for the reworked scheme to be more effective and to cover

more number of beneficiaries. Further, simplification of procedural requirements for the beneficiaries to make use of the scheme's benefits shall be taken into account as part of the revision.

Reply of the Government

The AFC India Ltd. Lucknow, which has been entrusted with conducting the mid-term third-party evaluation of the Silk Samagra-2 Scheme, has submitted the draft study report. The report is currently under scrutiny and is expected to be finalized by mid-April 2025. Based on the findings of the evaluation study and consultations with key stakeholders, the ongoing Silk Samagra-2 scheme is proposed to be continued in an improved version, with a special focus on the North Eastern Region, thereby ensuring wider coverage of beneficiaries and enhanced impact. In this context, the preparation of Concept Note/ EFC Memo proposal, in accordance with the guidelines of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, for continuation of the scheme during next five year 2026-27 to 20230-31, is currently under progress and shall be completed as per the timeline prescribed by the Ministry of Textiles. Further, with regard to the simplification of procedural requirements for beneficiaries, it is submitted that since the beneficiary-oriented components under the scheme are implemented through the respective State Sericulture Departments, the beneficiaries are identified/ selected by the State involving their field level functionaries. Therefore, the States have been requested to develop and implement an online interface or adopt suitable e-governance mechanisms to simplify procedural requirements, enhance accessibility and ensure effective implementation of the scheme.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 17)

The Committee observe 'non-receipt of viable proposals' as a bane in the implementation of even many important schemes of Ministry of Textiles including the Schemes of Silk sector. The Committee strongly urge that this aspect should also be seen by the Ministry for appropriate attention as part of the revamping of the scheme.

Reply of the Government

With respect to the observation on the non-receipt of viable proposals, it submitted that the Central Silk Board (CSB) has fully utilized the budget allocation during 2024-25 for the implementation of the Silk Samagra-2 scheme, including beneficiaryoriented components where support is provi

ded to States based on their proposals. The entire Budget (RE-2024-25) of Rs. (RE- 2024-25) of Rs.945.56 crore, has been effectively utilized during the year 2025-26 shall be utilized fully towards implementation of CSB's core mandated activities and also beneficiary oriented components as planned. It is to mentioned that during the current financial year 2025-26, proposals amounting to around Rs.437.00 crore were received from various States against the earmarked provision of Rs.260.00 crore. However, based on the viability of proposals and availability of funds, approvals have been accorded within the limits of the earmarked allocation. This aspect shall also be ensured in the modified scheme being formulated for implementation over the next five years beyond Silk Samagra-2 (2026-31).

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 18)

JUTE SECTOR

The Committee note that India is the largest producer of raw jute and jute products in the world, producing about 90 lakh bales (16 lakh MT) and the industry plays a significant role in the Indian economy and provides livelihoods for millions. It is estimated that the jute industry provides direct employment to 0.40 million workers in organized mills and in diversified units including tertiary sector and allied activities and supports the livelihood of 4.0 million farm families. The Committee find that at present the Indian Jute Industry has been facing challenges such as declining demand due to synthetic alternatives, lack of modernization in the fields of infrastructure and technology, and high production costs due to outdated mills with obsolete technology and infrastructure. The Committee, therefore, are of the considered opinion that the Ministry should put in more focus on modernization, diversification, and market expansion, while also promoting sustainable practices and skill development for both farmers and mill workers. For this the Committee exhort the Ministry to explore the possibility of initiating 'Jute Mission' on the lines of Cotton Mission so that the above mentioned concerns could be taken care of more systematically.

Reply of the Government

The on-going National Jute Development Program (NJDP) an Umbrella Scheme, aim to development and promotion of Jute Sector comprising activities of Jute Diversification, Modernisation of machineries and Market Development & Promotion / Expansion during 2021 -2022 to 2025-2026.

The schemes having objectives of Modernisation, Diversification and Market Development / Expansion are being implemented by NJB under National Jute Development Program, as below: -

1. Modernisation:

- Capital Subsidy for Acquisition of Plant & Machinery (CSAPM) Scheme provides subsidy @ 30% of the cost of the machineries to Jute Mills and MSME Units for manufacturing jute diversified products.

2. Jute Diversification:

- Jute Resource Cum Production Centre (JRCPC) Scheme provides Basic, Advanced and Design skill development training programmes on production of Jute Diversified Products to Jute Artisans, Rural Youths and WSHGs.
- Jute Raw Material Bank (JRMB) Scheme for supplying jute raw materials to MSME ~JDP Units / WSHGs at mill gate price for manufacturing jute diversified products. The Collaborating Agencies are supported with incentive @ 30% of the sale value of Jute Raw Materials within an annual ceiling of sales Rs. 40.00 lakhs.
- Jute Retail Outlets (JRO) Scheme for facilitating the jute entrepreneurs / exporters to display and ensure availability of jute diversified products in the showrooms / outlets for mass consumption. Incentive/Support @ 25% of the sale value of Jute Diversified Products within an annual ceiling of sales of 36.00 lakhs.
- Jute Design Resource Centre (JDRC) Scheme for development of innovative and market worthy jute products and helping the jute artisans / jute entrepreneurs / jute exporters for prototype developments.
- Product Diversification (R&D) Studies/ Projects have to be undertaken to explore possibilities of Jute in both textile & non-textile applications and Promotion of Jute Geo Textiles / Agro Textiles.
- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for providing assistance to the registered jute exporters on manufacturing and exporting jute diversified products. Incentive @ 5% of the cost of jute raw material used in manufacturing jute diversified products exported limited to @ 3% of FOB value and subject to maximum of Rs. 12.00 per unit/annum.

3. Market Development & Promotion (MDPS) Scheme: Organization of Domestic & International exhibitions/ fairs facilitating participation of jute artisans entrepreneurs/Regd. Jute Exporters for creating awareness, promotion and sale of jute products.

- Export Market Promotion Assistance (EMPA) facilitating participation of registered jute exporters in International Trade Fairs / Export Promotion Events for boosting export of jute products. The Participants are provided reimbursement @ 90% for new exporter, @ 75% to MSME units and @ 50 % to large/ Jute Mill/units of total expenditure of Rs.

7.50 lakhs per event under Space rent & decoration(Rs. 5.00 lakhs) and Air Fare & Hotel Stay (Rs. 2.50 lakhs).

- Jute Mark India Logo Initiative (JMIL) to ensure quality compliance of jute products being manufactured by Jute Mills & MSME JDP Units.

Skill Development Initiatives for Jute Farmers:

- Under ongoing Jute I-Care programme, the jute farmers are being actively associated on implementation of scientific method of cultivation, uses of HYV certified jute seeds, microbial consortium in retting exercise. Such awareness programme with showing and retting demo are being organised at regular interval at field level involving Primary Agriculture Co-operative Society (PACs), Farmers' Club, Farmer Producers' Organisations (FPOs) etc. Besides, Crop Protection Information through social media and direct training at field level by ICAR-CRIJAF scientists are provided to jute farmers.

To explore the possibility of initiating Jute Mission on the lines of Cotton Mission, a Concept Note on Jute Technology Mission encompassing Raw Jute (Quality/Productivity Improvement), Marketing, Product & Process Development, Modernization, Diversification and Market Promotion /Expansion has been initiated.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 19)

The Committee further urge upon the Ministry to organize special awareness programmes, in the areas where Jute is majorly grown and processed, for making the Mill owners aware about the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (A-TUFS) Scheme of the Ministry of Textiles. This scheme would help upgrade existing machinery and install modern looms resulting in overall growth and development of farmers and mill workers. The Committee also want the Ministry to conduct proper R&D in collaboration with the research institutes for developing new innovations for Jute usage. Public Private Partnership should be explored as the mode for advancement in this direction. The Committee also feel that by the current push of the Government to replace plastic with environment friendly packaging options should be seen as an opportunity and the Ministry should seek out options how jute can fill in the gaps that may be left by plastic bags and other synthetic products. Even legislative interventions like amending the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 and its robust implementation on the ground could be explored to handhold the industry in this endeavour. When it comes to increasing the exports of jute

diversified products, the Committee are of the considered opinion that the Ministry should probe new international markets other than US, UAE, etc.

Reply of the Government

NJB has been actively engaged in prioritization of Research agenda in exploring possibilities of jute in both textile and non-textile applications. In this direction, the on-going 18 R&D projects include as below:

Sl. No	Project Implementing R&D Institutes	Title of the Project	Objectives	Name of the Industry Partner
1.	Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA)	Development of Jute Composite for automotive acoustic insulation & other uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To design and develop composite material for automotive acoustic insulation; ii. To conduct trials in real life situation iii. To standardize fibre component and process parameters for this specific use; iv. To attempt for use of jute non-wovens and composites in other automotive parts. 	M/s RFM Automotives Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon.
2.	Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA)	Development of a molten metal splash resistance unique jute blended work wear for Steel foundry workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To develop fabrics of various weaves and masses using jute and its blends; (ii) To finish these fabrics with durable FR chemicals and their analysis; 	M/s Mahavir Spinfab, Kanpur

			<p>(iii) To determine chemical, mechanical and safety performance properties;</p> <p>(iv) To compare existing work-wear fabric with newly developed fabric for safety performance and other properties;</p> <p>(v) Techno-commercial feasibility through field trials at the user industry</p>	
3.	National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	Nano-technological intervention on jute-geotextile to adapt long term sustainability and enhanced durability for its cost-effective and wide application in flexible pavement systems	<p>(i) Chemically modification of conventional jute geotextile (JGT) materials to enhance its durability and tensile strength properties</p> <p>(ii) Performance study of the treated JGT as reinforcing layer over the soil sub-grade in flexible pavement system under repeated wheel load.</p> <p>(iii) Development of protocols on the application of JGT as geo-material in pavement construction based on experimental and numerical modeling.</p> <p>(iv) Economic analysis for pavement construction and lifelong study on overlying the JGT</p>	M/s Gloster Ltd, Kolkata.

			treated soil subgrade.	
4.	National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	Development of guidelines to adopt the process of height increment of overburden dumps at open cast coal mines in India using jute-geotextile as reinforcing material	To make scientific guidelines for increasing the height of the overburden dumps at opencast coal mines using jute-geotextiles as reinforcing material through a detailed geotechnical characterization and stability analysis of coal mine overburden dumps in India to meet the techno-economic and operational challenge to go for the most efficient overburden dump design, that is steep enough to be safe and flat enough to be economically acceptable.	M/s Ludlow Jute & Specialities Ltd., Kolkata.
5.	Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA)	Development of Jute Composite application in Prosthetic Leg	i. Development of jute fiber based polymeric prosthetic leg socket as a replacement of existing material by considering the woven jute fiber and needle punched jute fiber ii. Performance evaluation of the jute based prosthetic leg socket developed using different polymeric material on the basis of physical, mechanical and thermal characteristics; iii. Optimization of the developed material based on	Blind People's Association Ahmedabad

			the performance attributes; iv. Field trial to study the static comfort test and life cycle assessment of prosthetic leg.	
6.	ICAR-National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology (ICAR-NINFET)	Development of biodegradable packaging boxes from jute sticks and jute pulp for Agricultural products	i. Development of durable boxes from jute sticks for transportation of fruits & vegetables ii. Development of packaging boxes from paper boards made out of jute pulp (stick & fibre) for high value perishable fruits like mushrooms and strawberries iii. Studies on the quality attributes of stores products during transportation and storage.	M/s Sheet Kamal Pvt. Ltd.
7.	Wool Research Association (WRA)	Development of Cost Effective Handmade Carpets & Floor Coverings, Home Furnishings & Knitwears using Jute (Treated Woolenised or Untreated) & other natural fibres with value added Eco Friendly Finishes such as with Flame Retardancy, Mosquito Repellent, Anti-Bacterial/Antimicrobial Properties etc.	i. i. To develop woven/knitted fabrics (union blends or otherwise) using Jute (treated woolenised or untreated) with other natural fibers for home furnishings, handmade carpets and floor coverings. ii. To impart value added multi-functional and eco-friendly finishing such as Flame	1.M/s VC Vishal Carpets Manufacturer & Exporters of Hand Made Carpets Bhadohi 2.M/s Innoleague Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.

			Retardancy, Mosquito Repellence, and Anti-Bacterial / Antimicrobial Properties, etc. on the developed product for floor coverings, home furnishing & Knitwears application as per requirement. iii. To study and evaluate the performance of the different developed products. iv. To study the techno commercial feasibility of the developed products	
8.	Government College of Engineering & Textile Technology	Development of jute based composite for non-structural applications	i. To develop different jute based composite structures ii. To identify commercially available continuous and discontinuous processes and to set the process parameters for manufacturing composite for different end uses	M/s Fibro-Plastichem India Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata
9.	Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute (CPPRI)	Production of Pilot Scale Whole Jute Dissolving Pulp for Viscose Fibre	Pilot Scale study on production of Rayon grade pulp from Whole Jute followed to preparation of viscose fibre	M/s ABSTCPL Taloja, Maharashtra
10.	Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA)	Hybrid Jute Composite Modification and Subsequent Development of Porta Cabin	i. Development of jute fiber-based sandwich panels for porta cabin. ii. Performance evaluation of the developed jute fibre reinforced sandwich	M/s A. B Composite, Kolkata

			<p>composites on the basis of Physical, mechanical and thermal characteristics.</p> <p>iii. Development of Numerical simulation model to evaluate the effect of sandwich and analyze the mechanical performance of the jute-based sandwich composites.</p> <p>iv. Optimization of the developed material based on the performance attributes</p> <p>v. Fabrication of porta house as well as study the performance and life cycle assessment of porta house under real environment (Field Trial)</p>	
11.	<p>Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar (I.I.T Bhubaneswar)</p>	<p>Mechanistic-Empirical Design of Jute Geotextile Reinforcement Pavements for Rural Roads</p>	<p>Pavement design of jute geotextile reinforced low volume road pavements are being done as per the guidelines given in IRC: SP: 126: 2019. However, it is not based on any pavement performance data. Mechanistic-empirical designs are considered to be the most appropriate pavement design approach across the globe. Considering the need to collect systematic pavement performance data for such roads, the</p>	<p>M/s Birla Jute Mill, Birla, Kolkata.</p>

			objective of this study is to support construction of low volume road pavements under PMGSY using Jute geotextiles, evaluate their pavement performance for a long time and develop mechanistic-empirical based design charts for low volume roads using jute geotextiles.	
12.	National Institute of Technology Karnataka	Technology Development and Engineering Performance Evaluation of Jute Geocells for Slope Stabilization and Pavement Applications	<p>i. To develop a technology to manufacture geocells from Jute yarn/fiber.</p> <p>ii. To do material characterization of jute geocell by conducting various laboratory tests and standardizing jute geocells in line with BIS standards for various field applications.</p> <p>iii. To establish the performance evaluation of natural jute geocells through model tests in the lab.</p> <p>iv. Filed implementation of jute geocells at two different sites to demonstrate the viability of the proposed geocells for various applications.</p>	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Kolkata.
13.	ICAR-National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology (ICAR-NINFET)	Development of modern mini-spinning machinery for processing of jute and allied fibres for small industries	<p>i. To study the economic viability of proposed machines to be developed viz- a- viz existing machinery for different range of yarn count of jute and allied fibres.</p>	M/s Bhowmick Calculators, Kolkata.

			<p>II. To design and fabricate suitable mini-carding, mini-drawing and mini-spinning machinery system for processing jute and allied fibres</p> <p>III. To evaluate the spinning performance of the developed machine for the production of jute and allied fibre-based yarn.</p>	
14.	Indian Institute of Science Bangalore	Evaluation for Filtration Characteristics of Jute Geotextiles	<p>i. To evaluate the physical and hydraulic characteristics of jute geotextiles and subgrade soils</p> <p>ii. To perform laboratory one-dimensional flow filtration tests</p> <p>iii. To evaluate the filtration characteristics based on the retention, hydraulic conductivity, and clogging requirements.</p>	M/s Birla Jute Mill, Kolkata.
15.	Indian Jute Industries Research Association	Exploration of usage of Engineered Jute and Agro-waste based Agrotextiles for Improving Farmers' Income on their Produce	Innovation of novel textile engineering-based jute and agro-waste blended Agrotextiles with an aim to find out their effectiveness for improving agriculture productivity	M/s Kamarhati Jute Mill, Kolkata and M/s Ambica Jute Mill, Howrah.
16.	Indian Institute of Science Bangalore	Application of Jute Geotextiles in Reinforcing the Retaining Walls for	I. Building large scale retaining walls reinforced with jute	M/s Engosyam Consultants

		Static and Seismic Stability	<p>geotextiles and jute geocells.</p> <p>II. Understanding the performance of jute reinforced retaining walls under static and seismic loading conditions with flexible and rigid facing of the walls.</p> <p>III. Understanding the shear strength of jute geotextile-sand, and jute geocell-sand interfaces and correlating it to the performance of the reinforced retaining walls.</p> <p>IV. Quantifying the performance benefits of jute geotextile reinforcement.</p>	
17.	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	Development of Jute Clay Liners (JCL) for Waste Containment Applications	<p>i. To understand the influence of the quality of the jute geotextile (different GSMs of the jute geotextiles), quality and gradation of the used bentonites, and type of the bonding used for JCL preparation.</p> <p>ii. To understand the hydraulic characteristics of the proposed JCLs under different inorganic salts and heavy metal solutions.</p> <p>iii. To understand the diffusion</p>	M/s Birla Jute Mill, kolkata.

			<p>characteristics of the proposed JCLs with different inorganic salts and heavy metal solutions.</p> <p>iv. To understand the soil water characteristics of proposed JCLs and its comparison with the existing GCLs with synthetic geotextiles.</p>
18.	The Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad	Industrial scale up of biodegradable, non-polymer super-hydrophobic jute fabric exhibiting excellent water repellency & stiffness for shopping/hand bag products	<p>The aim of proposed project is to develop cheap, durable, sustainable & biodegradable water repellent and stiff coatings to improve the longevity of jute fabrics and yarn. The followings are the main objectives of the proposed work:</p> <p>VIII. Improvement of water-repellency and stiffness of jute yarn and fabric</p> <p>IX. Examine the jute after modification through wetting, surface morphology, chemical, mechanical, physical characteristics</p> <p>X. Examination of durability, biodegradation and</p>

			sustainability of jute after modification XI. Assessment of jute applications after modifications (eg. self-cleaning, anti-stain, antibacterial, and anti-fungal) XII. Quality and life assessment of coated jute based prototype items (hand and shopping bags) XIII. Cost analysis of the coating at lab scale XIV. Up-scaling the process and industrial trial	
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Various Textile Research Associations viz. NITRA, ATIRA, NIT, NINFET, WRA have been assigned with the R&D Projects.

Increasing Exports of Jute Diversified Products:

During 2023-24, Exports of Jute Diversified Products from India were mainly to: USA, (28%), France (18%), UK (8%), The Netherlands (5%), Spain (5%), Australia (4%), Germany (4%), Belgium (3%), UAE (2%), Sweden (2%). All these top 10 countries accounted for 79 % of total value of Jute Diversified Products exported. Thus, USA and EU are the major countries importing Jute Diversified Products from India.

NJB, as measure for export promotion of Jute Diversified Products has identified Focus and Emerging Markets including Latin American countries, Australia & New Zealand and included in its International Marketing Plan to organise participation of Regd. Jute Exporters in Export Promotion Events *viz.* Trade Fairs, BSMS, Business Delegation, Conference etc.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.

Please see Para No. 16 of Chapter-I.

Recommendation (Para No. 20)

The Committee note that Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for Jute and jute products is a significant pre-requisite for overall development and growth of the Jute Industry in India. As the Ministry have admitted that GeM provides increased transparency and also ensures timely payments to the beneficiaries by the indenting State Governments, the Committee impress upon the Ministry to take pro-active measures to figure out the challenges which are there in the existing GeM for the Jute sector. The Committee also desire that, if need be, the Ministry may get feedback from the beneficiaries so that the difficulties at the grass root level may be alleviated. Considering that GeM platform provides innumerable benefits to the buyers as well as the sellers such as streamlined procurement, transparency, and increased efficiency for government departments and businesses, the Committee hope that it would be revisited at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

With effect from 1st November 2016 onwards, the jute bags for packaging of food grains are being procured through o/o Jute Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles. An e-platform "JUTE- SMART" (Jute Sacking Supply Management and Requisition Tool) has been implemented by O/o Jute Commissioner for procurement of jute sacking from 1st November 2016, which provides an end-to-end digital solution for procurement of jute bags for food grains packaging.

In terms of the notification no. 5459 (E) dated 26th December 2023 issued under the Section 3(1) of the JPM Act, Central Government has mandated packaging of 100% food grains and 20% sugar in jute bags. The notification inter-alia provides for 10% procurement through reverse auction from GeM portal. For implementing the Notification dated 26th December 2023 for 10% of the procurement of jute bags through reverse auction on the GeM Portal, o/o Jute Commissioner and GeM have provided

the necessary landholding for the jute mills to register themselves on the portal.

However, the industry association IJMA vide various letters have raised certain issues regarding procurement of jute bags for packing of food grains through GeM portal, which are summarized as below:

- The hurdle in implementation of GeM is the pegging of the ceiling price at the level of administrative price being declared by JC office.
- The issue regarding terms of business not being clear was raised by the industry.
- Increased working capital requirements on account of EMD, PBG etc.
- Jute Smart portal allocates order of production of jute bags to all jute mills according to the allocation formula decided by the competent authority in consultation with the stakeholders from time to time. It is presently based on the installed capacity of the jute mills. The GeM portal does not have such mechanism at present and it allocates order to L-1 bidder only. Hence, an algorithm has to be prepared by GeM so that orders received by mills are commensurate to capacity and there is optimum capacity utilization of industry.

The office of the Jute Commissioner issues the price of 580gm B-Twill Jute Bags under clause 3(4) of the Jute and Jute Textile Control Order 2016, which is the maximum price at which the jute bags can be sold or procured. Therefore, the prices in GeM portal cannot be higher than the price declared by Jute Commissioner under Clause 3(4) of the Jute and Jute Textiles Control Order, 2016.

Some SPAs had issued tenders on GeM portal, but those could not be completed due to the stay granted by Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta in WPO 818 of 2024. However, the stay has been lifted after the appeal by o/o Jute Commissioner was allowed and the writ petition was dismissed by Division Bench of the Hon'ble Court. The terms of business in GeM portal are now known as the tenders had been published incorporating the same.

Further, once the State Procurement Agencies (SPAs) issue the tenders on GeM portal and are taken to its conclusion, the feedback shall be taken from the industry and the concerns, if any, shall be taken into account for future development.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

TEXTILE SECTOR

Regarding the specific steps taken to capitalize on the increased international textile demands in the face of closure of a number of National Textile Corporation (NTC) mills in the country, the Committee find that

contribution of NTC Mills in overall domestic textile production was very minimal (around 1-2 per cent at its peak). The role of NTC Mills in export market is almost negligible. As such, closure of NTC mills would not have any bearing on meeting international textile demand. The Committee, taking note of this scenario, strongly recommend that the Ministry in this situation should take extra measures to provide facilitative environment to the textile industry in the country by various appropriate measures which may include more remission of duties and taxes on exports to help exporters partially offset their production costs to boost up the exports in textiles and apparel and capture more share in the international market.

Reply of the Government

Government is implementing Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) scheme for Apparel/Garments and Made-ups in order to enhance competitiveness by adopting principle of zero-rated exports. Further, textiles products not covered under the RoSCTL scheme are covered under Remissions of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) along with other products. In addition, Government provides financial support to various Export Promotion Councils and Trade Bodies under Market Access Initiative Scheme implemented by Department of Commerce for organising and participating in trade fairs, exhibitions, buyer-seller meets etc. at national and international levels to boost export.

In order to increase the export potential, India has so far signed 14 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) with various trading partners.

Further, the Government is implementing various schemes/initiatives to promote Indian textiles sector and enhance its competitiveness. The major schemes/initiatives include PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme to create a modern, integrated, world class textile infrastructure; Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme focusing on MMF Fabric, MMF Apparel and Technical Textiles to boost large scale manufacturing and enhancing competitiveness; National Technical Textiles Mission focusing on Research Innovation & Development. Promotion and Market Development: SAMARTH - Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector with the objective providing demand driven, placement oriented, skilling program.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No.22)

PM-MITRA

The Committee note that budget is allocated under Capital and Revenue Heads for PM-MITRA Scheme and the allocations under Capital Head have been utilized in full. The Ministry sought BE of ₹ 300.00 crore in 2024-25 which was slashed down to ₹ 44.00 crore at RE stage. Actual Expenditure under the Scheme stood at ₹ 24.51 crore as on 25.02.2025. The Committee are concerned to find that the funds under Revenue Head could not be utilized during 2024-25 fiscal as these funds are supposed to be released to the seven State Governments, only once they fulfill certain criteria including selection of Master Developer. As none of the States have selected the Master Developer for the PM MITRA Parks, the Government of India share could not be released to them; hence there was a shortfall in utilization. This important Scheme was launched for a period of seven years from 2021-22 to 2027-28 FY. Taking note of the above facts, the Committee express their concern that even after passage of five years, only 7 sites in the 7 States have been approved, even the construction has not started at all the sites and every year the funds allocated for this purpose go unutilized as in 2023-24 wherein ₹ 0.13 crore was the AE vis-à-vis ₹ 52.30 crore RE. The Committee reckon that PM MITRA is one of the most ambitious and prestigious schemes envisioned by the Prime Minister. It prima facie appears to the Committee that the lack of initiative by the States in providing requisite infrastructure and planning has been one of the reasons for the Parks not becoming a reality. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take up this matter with the concerned 7 State Governments on priority and pursue them to appoint a Master Developer within a definite time-line provided by the Ministry. The Committee understand that there are difficulties emerging at grass-root level which the State Governments have to deal with while completing these Parks. But, considering the significance attributed to the Scheme, the Committee recommend that a Special Task Force of the representatives of the Central and State Governments shall be formed to analyse the teething issues faced by the scheme and to suggest practical solutions. Further the Task Force should also monitor the progress of PM MITRA Parks and to handhold the States to complete the construction of the Parks in the least possible time. This will also ensure that the total outlay fixed for the Scheme could be utilised and PM MITRA Parks start functioning and provide much needed fillip to the Textile Sector.

Recommendation (Para No. 23)

The Committee expect that the funds of ₹ 300.00 crore at BE stage in FY 2025-26 would not go unutilized in the ensuing financial year as these Parks form part of the vision of future by our PM with the aim of developing integrated large scale and modern industrial infrastructure facility for total value-chain

of the textile industry and are required to be set up by 2027-28 with the total expenditure of ₹ 4445.00 crore. Further, the Committee would like to be apprised of the total amount utilized out of ₹ 4445.00 crore since the launch of the Scheme till date.

Reply of the Government (22 & 23)

As regards approval of only 7 PM MITRA Parks, it may be noted that as per Cabinet Note, only 7 sites (Greenfield/Brownfield) are to be selected for establishment of PMMITRA Parks for which Rs. 4445 crore has been sanctioned for 7 years. All States were requested to submit proposals for establishing PM MITRA Park in their respective States. In response, 18 proposals from 13 States were received. Based on the criteria laid in scheme guideline, 7 sites (5 Greenfield and 2 Brownfield) were finalized. hence the deemed action as per scheme guideline has been completed and there is no laxity or shortfall on this count.

Special Task Force: In so far as monitoring is concerned, Project Approval Committee already exists to guide and oversee implementation of the parks. The composition of PAC is as under:

- v. Secretary, M/o Textiles-Chairman
- vi. Financial Advisor, M/o Textiles –Member
- vii. AS/JS, M/o Textiles-Member
- viii. Representatives of DPIIT and NITI Aayog

In addition, the SPV Boards include senior State representatives also have been created to guide and monitor the progress of the parks. So far, 8 meetings of PAC have been held.

As regards constitution of Special Task Force, it may be noted that the project is being led by a Special Purpose Vehicle. Secretary (Textiles), Government of India is Chairperson of the Board of Directors of SPV and Secretary (Industry/Textiles) of State concerned is Chief Executive Officer of the SPV. SPV is responsible for overall development, governance and administration of the park. Under PM MITRA, a total of Rs. 24.63 crore has been utilized in 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Considerable progress has been made after the selection of the sites. The details of State wise progress made is as under:

GREENFIELD PROJECTS

(a) Gujarat

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt signed
- SPV named “PM Mitra Park Gujarat Limited” incorporated.
- 100% land acquired and Land transferred in the name of SPV.
- Environment Clearance (EC) received on 19.02.2024.

- RFP for onboarding of Master Developer for development of PM MITRA Park in Gujarat made live on n-procure website from 27.11.2024. Pre bid meeting held on 24.12.2024.
- Investor Sentiment Survey conducted by GIDC from potential investors.
- Stakeholders' engagement carried out with Textile Industry Body Associations, Investors, Ministry of Textiles, and Entrepreneurs & Industry Experts for Development of PM MITRA Park.

(b) Uttar Pradesh

- Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt signed
- SPV named (PM MITRA Park Uttar Pradesh Ltd.) incorporated on 10.10.2023.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Uttar Pradesh has transferred the land to the SPV on 23.02.2023.
- Environmental Clearance (EC) for the project site granted on 15.07.2024.
- The clearance for the extracting ground water obtained on 01.07.2024.
- Road widening work of 5.8 KM has been completed till park gate
- Government of Uttar Pradesh has received investment intentions of Rs. 4120.85 Crores from 81 Investors, potentially creating Approx. 36,480 jobs opportunities.

(c) Madhya Pradesh

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt been signed.
- SPV named (PM MITRA Park Madhya Pradesh Ltd.) incorporated on 02.01.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Land transfer order been issued.
- Park layout plan prepared.
- Received intentions to invest worth Rs. 10,547/- Crs from 30 investors.
- The Competent authority has accorded in-principal approval to the proposal of the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for implementation of PM MITRA Park scheme through the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh subject to certain condition.

(d) Tamil Nadu

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt has been signed.
- SPV (PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park Tamil Nadu Limited) incorporated on 20.02.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Tamil Nadu is in process of transferring land to SPV (PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park Tamil Nadu Limited)
- Environmental Clearance (EC) obtained on 31.07.2023.
- 11 MoUs signed with prospective investors in the PM MITRA Park for a total investment amount of 1231 crores thereby creating 6,315 job opportunities.

- The PAC agreed in the principle to the GoTN's Proposal for implementing to PM MITRA Park scheme through the GoTN (which in turn would utilise the services of SIPCOT- an undertaking wholly owned by Government of Tamil Nadu), subject to certain condition.

(e) Karnataka

- MoU and Joint Venture Agreement between GoI and State Govt has been signed.
- SPV (PM MITRA PARK KARNATAKA LIMITED) formed on 27.03.2024.
- 100% land acquired, Government of Karnataka Transferred Land to SPV on 22.10.2024
- 8 MoU's for investment of Rs. 1700 Crore signed by Govt of Karnataka.

BROWNFIELD PROJECTS

(f) Telangana

- Park is in operation
- Total Investments as on date – Rs. 2694 cores
- MoU (including amendments) between GoI and Govt. of Telangana signed.
- Implementing Agency: Government of Telangana through its State Implementing Agency (SIA) i.e Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC).
- Environmental Clearance (EC) is available.

(g) Maharashtra

- MoU between GoI and Govt. of Maharashtra signed
- Implementing Agency: Government of Maharashtra through its State Implementing Agency (SIA) i.e. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC)
- The tender for the infrastructure Development worth Rs. 111 cr finalized and work order issued.
- 5 MoUs totalling to the investment of INR 1,370 Cr. signed.
- The Foundation stone to the park was laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister in September 2024.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.

Please see Para No. 20 of Chapter-I.

Recommendation (Para No. 24)

NATIONAL TECHNICAL TEXTILE MISSION (NTTM)

The Committee note that under NTTM, implementation of TSA Hybrid model took a considerable time due to which assignment of budget and its

utilization by respective institutions got delayed. Further, as per the Ministry, all R&D Projects involve procurement of instruments and machinery for which Capital Budget is allocated. Research Institutions have pointed out that the procurement process as per GFR takes significant time due to which the assigned amount could not be utilized in timely manner. Taking note of the above facts, similar to the recommendation in case of Wool Sector Schemes, the Committee urge upon the Ministry of Textiles to take up the specific nature of research projects which have extended gestation periods that come in the way of adhering to the general fund utilisation pattern as stipulated by the Ministry of Finance. Because of this inherent problem, research projects require specifically spelt out funding and utilisation guidelines. This may even be considered on case-to-case basis. The Committee wants that this aspect shall be examined on merit and with the urgency it commands.

Reply of the Government

The problem faced by research projects in utilization of funds was examined and following measure have been adopted to address the issue to large extent: -

- (i) The milestones now form of the approval letter which define the stages of the project and its mapping with the financial releases.
- (ii) In Capital intensive projects, the major portion of the capital funds are being released in first installment giving more time to Project Investigator (PI) for utilization. The installments are designated project wise depending upon the nature of project and requirement of the PI.
- (iii) Cases which require global tender for procurement are fast tracked for granting approval in accordance with guidelines of promoting make in India.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 25)

PLI SCHEME

The Committee note that PLI Scheme for Textile Sector was launched in 2020 with an objective of promoting production of MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and products of Technical Textiles in the country for enabling the Textile Sector to achieve size and scale and increase competitiveness. PLI Scheme for Textiles has an outlay of ₹ 10,683 crore for a period of five-years. The Committee understand that FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 were gestation period for the Scheme and that is why RE of ₹ 7.50 crore was allocated in 2022-23 out of which ₹ 7.08 crore were utilized. During FY 2023-24, RE of ₹ 5.00 crore was allocated out of which ₹ 4.13 crore could only be made use of. However, the

Committee cannot but express concern that only ₹ 2.10 crore could be utilized in 2024-25 against RE of ₹ 45.00 crore. Though the Ministry apprised the Committee that this was because FY 2024-25 is the first performance year under the Scheme, the Committee are not satisfied with this reply of the Ministry and wonder that if 2025-26 is the first incentive disbursement year, then what was the purpose of allocation of funds at RE stage to the tune of ₹ 45.00 crore in 2024-25. The Committee, however, appreciate the move by the Ministry to make amendment in the Scheme guidelines to allow early incentive disbursement and expect that the Ministry shall make concerted efforts to ensure optimal utilization of the RE funds in 2024-25.

Reply of the Government

Rs. 45.00 cr of RE 2024-25 comprises of Rs. 5.00 cr under Professional Services head and Rs. 40.00 cr under Grants-in-Aid General.

PLI scheme was in Gestation period for FY 2022-23 & FY 2023-24. FY 2024-25 was the first performance year and FY 2025-26 is the first incentive claim year. However, in case of fast paced investment when threshold investment and threshold turnover is achieved by FY 2023-24, incentive may be payable in FY 2024-25 itself. Also, earlier the applicant was to submit a claim for disbursement of incentive on an annual basis. However, keeping in view, the requests from industry for early incentive disbursement, amendment for the same has been issued.

Rs.40.00 Cr. in RE was sought for FY 2024-25 in view of likely early disbursement or fast paced disbursement for companies who achieve threshold investment and sales.

The PMA (Programme management agency) has been hired from year FY 2021-22 whose payment is given through professional services head as administrative cost. Allotment and expense of fund in FY 2022-23, 2023-24 were towards that.

It may be informed that against RE of Rs. 45.00 crore, Rs.40.00 cr have been disbursed from Grants-in-Aid General head in FY 2024-25 as incentive and an expenditure of Rs.4.53 cr approx. has been incurred from Professional services head.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 26)

The Committee, taking into consideration that BE 2025-26 has been enormously enhanced to ₹ 1148 crore, expect that the PLI Scheme would come out of gestation and the Ministry would gainfully and effectively utilize the earmarked budget for incentive disbursement to PLI companies in 2025-26 and there would be no surrendering of funds at the end of the FY 2025-26. It is pertinent to keep in mind that realizing the purpose of the PLI Scheme of expanding manufacturing units in India, generate employment and

contribute in making the country 'Aatma-nirbhar' or 'self-reliant' by reducing the imports could be achieved only if time over run is prevented.

Reply of the Government

Noted.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 28)

SAMARTH

The Committee note that Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector (Samarth) was initiated from 2017-18 with an aim to incentivize and supplement the efforts of the industry in creation of jobs in the organized textile and related sectors, covering the entire value chain of textiles (excluding spinning and weaving) with an outlay of ₹ 1300 crore. The Scheme was extended for a period of three years, i.e., from 2021-22 to 2023- 2024 with an outlay of ₹ 390.00 crore, with the training target of 3.40 lakh candidates and further extended to FY 2025-26 with outlay of ₹ 495 crore to train 3 lakh persons. The Committee observe that the Ministry had sought BE of ₹ 166.00 crore for the year 2024-25 under SAMARTH Scheme which was drastically revised upwards to ₹ 331.00 crore at RE stage, but the AE was only 153.70 crore (92 per cent of BE and about 50 per cent of RE) at the end of February 2025. However, the Committee find that one lakh persons were to be given additional training after the RE stage in 2024-25 and the training of 70,000 persons is in the final stage which will be completed in February 2025. The Committee understand that as the payments will be released for all these trainings in the month of March, 2025, the RE funds would be utilized in 2024-25 fiscal. The Committee, still are of the firm opinion that Ministry should not wait till the fag end of the financial year for the training targets to be completed and instead should pace it evenly in batches from the beginning of the Financial Year. The Committee believe that the Ministry would make all concerted efforts to utilize the RE funds also within the timeline of the FY 2024-25.

Reply of the Government

The Scheme has successfully achieved the training target of 3.4 lakh candidates under the allocated outlay of Rs. 390 crores. Out of 390 crores, BE of Rs. 166 crores for the year 2024-25 which was sought to meet the liabilities which were utilized fully (100%).

Further, SFC in its meeting dated 30th September 2024 recommended the extension of scheme from FY 2024-25 to FY 2025-26 with the outlay of Rs. 495 crores to train 3 lakh persons. Accordingly, additional RE of Rs. 165

Crores was sought at RE stage which was approved in the last quarter of the financial year (i.e. FY 2024-25). Due to allocation of funds late in the Financial Year cycle and thereby having limited time for achieving the physical training target, the Ministry utilized an amount of Rs. 260.26 crores (which is about 78.62 % of RE) in FY 2024-25. However, For the FY 2025-26, Ministry is focusing on achieving physical and financial targets as about 10,000 candidates that have been trained (FY 2025-26 till 17th April 2025) and another 50,000 candidates are undergoing the training.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 29)

The Committee are of the considered view that imparting skill development training is a continuous process which cannot be stopped after one or two years and therefore, recommend the Ministry to take necessary measure to continue with this Scheme even after 2025-26 with requisite revamping, if required, based on the response received from implementation this far. The Committee also desire that the necessary approvals should be taken for this at the very beginning of the Financial Year so that the timely disbursement of budgetary funds could be carried out and there is no under utilisation or diversion of funds.

Reply of the Government

In line with the committee's view the Ministry has taken various steps in this direction to continue the skill development programme beyond 2026. Accordingly, a skill gap study is underway to gather the skilling requirement of the textile sector, also a third-party Impact Evaluation Study process has been initiated and a Task Force for policy formulation of new scheme is been constituted.

Under Samarth, the distribution of funds is directly linked to the physical milestones of training target. Hence, to ensure the timely disbursement of budgetary funds for FY 2025-26, the Ministry has allocated the additional training targets to empaneled Implementing Partners. Additionally, for broadening the base of Samarth scheme, the Ministry has issued an RFP on 6th December 2024 for the empanelment of new textile industry partners for training programme under Samarth. Currently for the FY 2025-26, approximately 10,000 candidates have already been trained (FY 2025-26 till 17th April 2025) and another about 50,000 candidates are undergoing training.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

CHAPTER-III
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO
NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Para No.7)

HANDLOOM SECTOR

The Committee note that the Handloom Sector is one of the largest unorganized economic activities of India and it constitutes an integral part of the rural and semi- rural livelihood engaging over 35 lakh persons. The sector engages over 25 lakh female weavers and allied workers. Handloom weaving constitutes one of the richest and most vibrant aspects of the Indian cultural heritage. The sector has advantage of being less capital intensive, minimal use of power, being eco-friendly, flexibility of small production, openness to innovations and adaptability to market requirements. One of the largest in terms of employment potential, Handloom industry, with 28.23 lakh handlooms, plays a very important role in the country's economy, producing both for domestic as well as international consumption. The Committee find that there are several Schemes /programmes in the Handloom Sector for the welfare of Handloom weavers. Under this Sector, the Ministry have utilized ₹ 337.56 crore out of RE of ₹ 378.01 crore during FY 2024-25 till January 2025. Albeit the Ministry have assured the Committee that the allocated funds will be fully utilized by the end of this FY, still the Committee desire that the Ministry should achieve the physical/financial targets under various schemes of the Sector, as stipulated. Further, the Committee are made aware that the Ministry are taking various measures to tackle the hurdles in the way of full utilization of earmarked budget such as requesting the State/UT Governments to submit the proposals in time, organizing meetings by the senior officers to review the progress with field officers as well as offices of State/UT Governments, etc. The Committee, nevertheless desire that the Ministry should also set up a reliable monitoring mechanism under the Financial Advisor to ensure that these steps taken by the Ministry actually work without fail and result in full utilization of allocated funds.

Reply of the Government

Under handloom sector, the Ministry has utilized Rs.374.40 crore out of RE of Rs.375.01 crore during FY 2024-25. During 2024-25, 79 small clusters sanctioned against target of 104 small clusters, 139 marketing events sanctioned/ organized against target of 127 marketing events, 9,211 weavers got mudra loans against target of 20,000 weavers, 1.38 lakh weavers enrolled for insurance against target of 3.245 lakh weavers and 323.84 lakh kg. yarn supplied against target of 360 lakh kg. Less achievement of physical targets can be attributed to non-availability of funds.

With regard to the observation of the Committee for setting up of a reliable monitoring mechanism under the Financial Advisor, it may be appraised that both the pace of expenditure and achieving physical targets are discussed time to time on various occasions during the meeting held frequently at senior level including the Financial Advisor of the Ministry and it is ensured to take action for effective implementation and optimum utilization of funds and to achieve set targets.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

CHAPTER-IV
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH
REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE
COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation (Para No.13)

WOOL SECTOR

The Committee note that the primary reason for under-utilization of funds in previous years from 2021-24 is the slow progress in project execution by the State Government Implementing Agencies, particularly under the Pashmina Wool Development Scheme in Ladakh. Harsh climatic conditions and prolonged road blockages for 5-6 months have constrained the timely implementation of projects in this region. Further, delay in submission of utilisation certificates under schemes have also hampered speedy utilization of funds. The Committee, taking note of the above fact, recommend that the Ministry should take up with the Ministry of Finance the aspect of harsh climatic conditions and terrain in areas like Ladakh hindering implementation of schemes of Wool Sector as they have to adhere to common expenditure guidelines relating to schemes. Ministry of Finance be impressed upon the need for granting relaxation in spending limits and for putting in place tailor made provisions for schemes implemented in areas like Ladakh considering the uniqueness of the conditions on the ground where beneficiaries of the scheme reside.

Reply of the Government

Due to adverse climatic conditions, the working period in the Ladakh region is from April to October. Accordingly fund allocation under the TASP. Capital and General Head may be provided in accordance with the extant rules and provision to facilitate the IA's utilizing funds in a speedy and timely manners. Further, Ministry of Finance will also be approached for tailor-made provision for schemes implemented in areas like Ladakh during the formulation of new scheme guidelines post 2025-26.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.
Please see Para No. 10 of Chapter-I.

CHAPTER-V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE INTERIM IN NATURE

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

Handloom Industries

The Committee note that the Ministry had put forth the demand of ₹ 11053 crore which is quite high as compared to the demand of ₹ 4480.00 crore as BE in 2024-25. The Ministry attributed the raised allocation of funds of ₹ 5040 crore and ₹ 1148 crore to Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and implementation of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme respectively. However, this demand was not accepted by the Ministry of Finance and finally ₹ 5272 crore was allocated as BE 2025-26. The Committee find that ₹ 5040 crore was sought for CCI for giving subsidy to farmers and ₹ 384.55 crore was for support to PSU to pay the salaries and allowances for employees. As the allocation at BE stage have been slashed drastically to less than half, the Committee impress upon the Ministry to reiterate their demand at Supplementary Grants stage and rigorously and impress upon the Ministry of Finance at RE stage to consider enhanced allocation of funds under the head of CCI enabling them to implement the welfare measure of providing subsidy to farmers as planned. The Committee also desire that salaries and allowances consist an important head and Ministry need to prudently allocate appropriate funds under this head.

Reply of the Government

For BE 2024-25, Ministry of Finance, had allocated Rs 600.00 crore for Cotton Corporation of India CCI. However, the same has been deducted in RE 2024-25, as the programme division yet to take approval of EFC/ SFC for materialization of funds. However, the Ministry is making all possible efforts to get allocation of funds for the Cotton Corporation of India and for the salaries and allowance for the employees of BIC Under Support to PSU.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 12)

The Committee are given to understand that the major challenges faced by the Ministry in effectively implementing the Schemes/programmes under the Schemes of Handicrafts sector are non-receipt of timely and viable proposals from Implementing Agencies, non-submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) and other documents by the implementing agencies on

time, infrastructure projects delay in land acquisition by the implementing agencies, mandatory transition to Central Nodal Agency (CNA) and then Treasury Single Account (TSA) module by the Central Ministries, etc. The Committee are not impressed to note the cliched and time worn answers about the problems faced by the Ministry in the implementation of Schemes under Handicraft Sector and measures taken to alleviate them. It is the firm opinion of the Committee that the Ministry shall take goal driven proactive measures to take feedback from the beneficiaries of these schemes and come up with effective provisions that bring results on the ground.

Reply of the Government

Under National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) scheme emphasis is being given to ensure that the benefits of the scheme shall reach to every artisan of the country. In order to ensure that every artisan benefit from the scheme, a district level saturation plan has been prepared based on different parameter such as number of artisans practising crafts, cluster area, endangered crafts etc. for FY 2024-25 to cover maximum number of uncovered areas. Evaluation of the NHDP schemes is under process in which impact assessment & feedback of the stakeholders will be taken for making the schemes more effective and beneficial for every artisan of the country. Online facility is provided to the artisans like artisan Identity Card, proposal submission & applying for participation in marketing events etc. Handicrafts Helpline Centre is already setup for Artisans professional queries on a telephone call and its resolution.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Recommendation (Para No. 27)

The Committee note that Ministry of Textiles had submitted two proposals *viz.* PLI 1.2 for expansion of Harmonized System (HS) lines under MMF Apparel and MMF fabrics and PLI 2 for apparel/garments, made-ups and textiles accessories for making the Scheme more comprehensive. The Committee finding the fact that these proposals are still under consideration, want that the Ministry should take measures to expedite the finalization/approval of these proposal. The Committee also want that the Ministry should take well-focused steps to increase the number of PLI companies so to promote competitiveness and foreign investments in our domestic textile industries. Further, the Committee have taken note of reports that the Government is pondering over a decision whether or not to continue with the PLI Scheme further. Though facts on this matter have not been placed before the Committee, it is observed that the continuance of PLI Scheme or an appropriate alternative for Textile Sector would be crucial for facilitating its growth in the country.

Reply of the Government

The proposal for PLI 1.2 for expanding coverage of items under the scheme has been shared with DPIIT which is consolidating all PLI schemes. Further additional comments to DPIIT are under finalization.

Draft Cabinet note on PLI 2.0 scheme for Textiles was shared with Cabinet on 10.12.2024 on which further comments have been received. These are under consultation, for scheme finalization.

Ministry has recently issued a comprehensive list of HSN codes covered under Technical Textile segments. PLI for textiles scheme has a projected investment of Rs.28,711 crore by selected applicants. As noted by Committee, a 3rd window for inviting applications under the scheme has been opened. This was in light of the industry requests from MMF fabrics & Technical Textiles.

(Ministry of Textile's O.M. No. 2/05/2025-Parl., dated: 28.07.2025)

Comments of the Committee.

Please see Para No. 23 of Chapter-I.

New Delhi;
24 March 2026
3 Chaitra 1948 (Saka)

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
CHAIRPERSON,
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR,
TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL
DEVELOPMENT**
(2025-26)

Minutes of the Ninth Sitting of the Committee

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 24 March, 2026 from 1500 hrs. to 1615 hrs. in Samanvay 5, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Basavaraj Bommai- Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri G. M. Harish Balayogi
3. Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary
4. Shri G. Lakshminarayana
5. Shri Rudra Narayan Pany
6. Shri Tanuj Punia
7. Shri Pradeep Purohit
8. Shri Raja Ram Singh
9. Shri Chavan Ravindra Vasantrya

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Govindbhai Laljibhai Dholakia
11. Shri Rajendra Gehlot
12. Dr. Syed Naseer Hussain
13. Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba
14. Shri Gurwinder Singh Oberoi

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Mukesh Kumar Sharma - Joint Secretary
2. Ms. K. Muanniang Tunglut - Director
3. Ms. Mili Dinesh - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri S. Lalengzau Ngaihte - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee, convened for consideration and adoption of the following Reports on:

(i) Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2025-26)' pertaining to the Ministry of Labour & Employment;

(ii) Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2025-26)' pertaining to the Ministry of Textiles; and

(iii) Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Sixth Report (18th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2025-26)' pertaining to the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

3. Giving an overview of the important Observations/Recommendations contained in the Draft Reports, the Chairperson solicited the views/ suggestions of the Members.

4. The Committee, then, took up the Draft Reports one by one for consideration and after some discussions, the draft Reports were adopted by the Committee with some modifications.

5. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalise the Draft Reports and present them to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX-II

(Vide Para No. 3 of Introduction)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTH REPORT (EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR, TEXTILES AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

		Total	Percentage
I.	Total number of Recommendations	29	
II.	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government – Rec. Para Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28 and 29.	24	82.76
III.	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply – Rec. Para No. 7.	01	3.45
IV	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration – Rec. Para No. 13.	01	3.45
V	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature - Rec. Para Nos. 2, 12 and 27.	03	10.34