

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2509  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005  
PRODUCTION OF CLOTH  
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been continuous decline in the production of cloth in handloom sector for the past few years as compared to the target fixed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the target and to increase the production of cloth?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TEXTILES ( SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) & (b) The estimated cloth production in handloom sector from 1998-99 to 2004-05 compared to target is given below:-

Year Target (in Million sq. mtrs.) Production (in Million sq. mtrs.)

1998-99	7336	6792
1999-2000	7795	7352
2000-01	8282	7506
2001-02	8800	7585
2002-03	4005	5980
2003-04	4239	5493
2004-05	4491	5722

The handloom sector is highly decentralized in nature and therefore the production in the handloom sector is estimated on the basis of domestic delivery of hank yarn in kgs. During the four years 1998-99 to 2001-02, the production of handloom cloth has shown an increasing trend. One of the factors for subsequent decline in production of handloom cloth may be related to the fiscal changes, such as imposition of excise duty on hank yarn. Although the estimated quantum of production from the year 2002-03 has shown a decrease compared to the previous four years, it is estimated that the value of handloom cloth production is improving due to production of value added items rather than low value items like Janata Cloth etc. which was prevalent in the past.

(c) The Government is implementing a number of schemes for the development of the handloom sector, with a view to promote product diversification, provide marketing support and technological upgradation. The main developmental schemes are Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Handloom Export Scheme. Further more, new schemes of Integrated Handloom Cluster Development (IHCD), Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojna and Health Insurance Scheme have been launched in the current financial year.

The production of handlooms in the year 2004-05 was 5722 million sq. mtrs compared to 5493 million sq. mtrs in 2003-04 which shows an increase. Also in the first quarter of 2005-06 it has registered a growth of 17.9 %.