

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2602
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005
MAKING HANDLOOM SECTOR HI-TECH
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has a proposal to make the handloom/handicraft sector hi-tech;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) to (c) : 25 Weavers' Service Centres are functioning in the country with an objective to develop new designs, product innovations and to provide technical assistance to the weavers/exporters/designers/manufacturers etc. in the field of designing, weaving, dyeing/printing etc. and these centres are also, equipped with personal computers. Out of these, 18 Weavers' Service Centres are also equipped with Computer Aided Textile Design system with a view to develop innovative designs commensurate with the market requirements. It is also proposed to introduce Handloom Mark and promote the brand image of handlooms. The Government of India has recently introduced Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme with an objective to develop the cluster in an integrated & holistic manner to build their capacity to meet the challenges of the market and global competition in a sustainable and self reliant manner. This includes assistance towards setting up of Dyeing Unit, Common Facility Centre, Quality Control Lab etc. Besides, various handloom Schemes namely; Handloom Export Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Pratsahan Yojana etc. are under implementation for the development of the Handloom Sector. These Schemes inter-alia includes assistance towards up-gradation of handlooms, accessories etc. Under the recently launched Health Insurance Scheme, Identity Cards will be issued to the weavers to avail the benefits of the scheme.

The Handicraft Sector proposed to take various steps to make this sector hi-tech by issuance of multi purpose Identity Cards to artisans with their details on computer; setting up of Facility Centre under Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for exporters and entrepreneurs on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model; promotion of brand image of Indian Handicrafts in the global market on sustained basis; e-commerce facility to artisans, entrepreneurs and exporters in order to have a wide market access for their products and setting up of Special Economic Zones for Handicrafts and Carpets.