

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:846  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006  
CONDITION OF WEAVERS  
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the pathetic condition of the weavers in West Bengal and other parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the saree weaver are neither getting the raw material at concessional rates nor getting the loans from the Bank/Financial Institutions;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide assistance to the weavers in the country, especially in West Bengal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

- (a) :No such reports have been received from the State Governments including, West Bengal.
- (b) :The Government of India is implementing a scheme called Mill Gate Price Scheme under which the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC), a Government of India Undertaking, is arranging supply of all types of yarn required for the handloom weavers and their organizations at Mill Gate Price. The expenditure for transportation of yarn from the Mill Gate to the godown of the handloom agencies is being reimbursed by NHDC to the handloom agencies and then by Government of India to NHDC. Working capital assistance is available at concessional rates from NABARD by way of separate line of refinance support to RRBs to finance various handlooms activities. However, the Government of West Bengal has informed that there is a problem in getting loan from Banks for individual weavers. Therefore, the individual weavers outside cooperative fold are being encouraged to form Self Help Groups so that they can get loan from Corporations like SC/ST/OBC and Minority Development and Finance Corporation.
- (c)&(d) : The Government is implementing a number of schemes for the development of the handloom Sector and welfare of handloom weavers, such as, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Marketing Promotion Programme, Handloom Export Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Design Development and Training Programme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Weavers Welfare Scheme comprising -Thrift Fund Scheme and New Insurance Scheme. In addition to the above schemes, the following new schemes have been introduced during the current financial year:
  - (i) Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCD S),
  - (ii) Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojna (MGBBY),
  - (iii) Health Insurance Scheme (HIS)