

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3665

ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006

HANDLOOM ARTICLES

Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of eleven textile articles reserved for exclusive production in handloom sector;
- (b) whether powerloom and mill sectors are illegally manufacturing textile items reserved for handloom sector; (
- (c) if so, measures taken to protect the interest of handloom sector and
- (d) the number of powerloom and mill sectors booked in the matter and action taken against them?

Answer

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

(a) : The Government of India promulgated the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 dated 29.3.1985 with a view to protect the interests of the handloom weavers in the country from the encroachment of the Powerloom and Mill sector on their livelihood. Under the Act, protection to the handloom sector was extended by way of reserving certain textile articles for exclusive production by handlooms. Presently 11 textile articles are reserved for exclusive production on handlooms vide Notification No. S.O. 557(E) dated 26.7.96 as amended vide S.O. 408(E) dated 2.6.99 and S.O. 405(E) dated 25.4.2000. The 11 reserved textile articles under the Handloom Reservation Order, 1996 are :-

Saree: made of cotton or silk with extra warp and /or extra weft design in border and/or heading and/or body including buttas containing in any coloured or grey or bleached yarn or zari or any other metallic/metalised yarn or has a solid coloured woven border. Tie and dye saree, warp wise and/or weft wise made out of cotton or silk or art silk in any combination thereof irrespective of count of yarn or dimensions with or without extra warp or extra weft solid woven border.

2) Dhoti: made out of cotton or silk in any combination thereof woven with extra warp and/or extra weft design using more than 16 dents inclusive of selvedge in the border including solid coloured woven border and / or extra weft heading irrespective of count and dimensions.

3) Towel, Gamcha and Angawastaram: woven in plain, mat, twill, honeycomb, huckaback or a combination of these weaves with border or heading which is also jointly characterized by cotton or blends of cotton with any other fibre; and has different dimensions and may be white or coloured; and may contain decorative design when produced on jacquard.

4) Lungi: made out of cotton or art silk or in any combination thereof having a width of 110 cms. or above and 64 ends per inch and above and woven in check and/or stripe design using coloured yarn to form check and/or stripe pattern.

5) Khes, Bedsheet, Bedcover, Counterpane, Furnishing (including tapestry, upholstery): What ever they called in different parts of country, including double cloth and tie & dye, made out of cotton or art silk or in any combination thereof, woven with design pattern on multi-treadle loom and/or with dobby and/or jacquards up to 200 hooks in case of pure cotton warp and up to 400 hooks in case of combination of cotton & art silk warp, irrespective of count and dimensions.

6) Jamakkalam Durry or Durret: made out of cotton or art silk or wool or jute or in any combination thereof using coarse count of single yarn or plies of resultant count having up to 24 ends/inch, woven with plain weave or twill weave or in combination of both twill and plain weave in any dimension.

7) Dress Material: including Mashru cloth and yarn tie & die cloth, made out of cotton or silk (including spun silk) or art silk or in any combination thereof woven with extra weft design in the border and/or body irrespective of count and dimensions.

8) Barrack Blankets, Kambal or Kamblies: Barrack Blankets made of wool of average 34 micron or coarser, with fibrous surface, produced by milling and raising; and includes barrack blankets made by using hand spun or mill spun woollen yarn from natural grey or black wool or its combination and produced in any size and in any weave.

(b) Kambal or kamblies means a thick fabric made of wool of average 34 micron or coarser, with fibrous surface, produced by milling and raising ; and includes kambal or kamblies made by using hand spun or mill spun, worsted, woollen yarn or its combination in plain, stripe or check design.

9) Shawl, Loi, Muffler, Pankhi etc. shawls woven, with extra weft designs, using woollen or worsted or pashmina or pure silk yarn or cotton yarn and/or its combination or blends with other fibers i.e. natural and/or manmade/synthetic fibre thereof with dobby/jacquard design effect up to 400 hooks; using any type of woollen, worsted or phasmina or pure silk yarn or cotton yarn and/or in combination thereof; it is woven with any count of yarn; it is woven in any length, width and weight; and is commonly known by that name.

10) Woollen Tweed: is a piece of fabric woven by 100% pure woollen yarn for making coats, jackets and dress materials and is also jointly characterized by the check or stripe design irrespective of dimensions; and It is produced in 3 / 1 twill weave.

11) Chaddar, Mekhala/Phanek: is used for covering lower and/or upper part of the body and is manufactured from cotton or silk or art silk or in any combination thereof woven in plain/will weave with check or stripe design irrespective of count and dimensions and is characterized by a border and/or cross border with extra warp and/or extra weft design.

(b) to (d) : Under section 6,7& 8 of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985, the authorized officers not below the rank of Assistant Director are empowered to call for information, enter and inspect & search and seize articles during the course of inspections of powerloom units/mills and also book case of violation of the Act, in case any powerloom or mill found producing textiles articles in violation of the Act. Any violation under the Act is punishable for imprisonment of 6 months or fine upto Rs. 5000/- per powerloom or both under section 10 of the Act. In order to protect the interest of handloom sector, the targets are fixed by D.C. Handlooms and circulated to all the implementing agencies for inspection of power loom units and mills under annual action plan. The physical achievements on power loom inspections during 2005-06 is as under:

Sl. No. Physical progress 2005-06
1. Targets for Powerloom Inspections 1,91,387
2. No. of Powerlooms Inspected 1,93,615

During 2005-06, implementing agencies have booked 33 FIRs and achieved 10 convictions for violation of the Act.