

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3770
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
SUICIDE BY WEAVERS
Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the weavers all over the country are in distress;
- (b) the total number of weavers who have committed suicides during the last three years; State-wise;
- (c) whether weavers are demanding minimum wages for the workers employed in looms;
- (d) whether the Government has received a number of representation from weavers all over the country especially from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the response of the Union Government thereof?

Answer

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

(a) : Information has been called from all States/Union Territories. The Director/Commissioner in-charge of Handlooms in the following State/UTs have informed that they have not received any such report: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal and Pondicherry. The following State authorities have informed that weavers are in distress in their States:-
Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan.

(b) : The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that 52 handloom weavers are reported to have committed suicides during the last three years. No such reports have received from other States/UTs from whom information has been received.

(c) to (f) : The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Sikkim have informed that the weavers are being paid wages under the Minimum Wages Act. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Pondicherry, Rajasthan and Uttaranchal have informed that they have not received any such demand/specific demand/representation.

The Government of Assam has, however, indicated that weavers are demanding minimum wages.