

**Welfare Schemes for Weavers**

2749. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
(JAHANABAD) :  
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the Central Schemes under implementation for the welfare of weavers in Karnataka;

(b) the amount released under various Welfare Schemes meant for the weavers in Karnataka during 1997-98;

(c) whether Karnataka Government had sought any special assistance to take up welfare schemes for weavers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any new schemes have been finalised for the welfare of weavers in the country and particularly in Bihar during the last two years;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government had a consultation with the State Government while finalising such scheme for the weavers; and

(h) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for providing assistance for welfare schemes of the weavers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The amounts released to the State Government of Karnataka during 1997-98 under various Central Welfare Schemes is given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount released to Government of Karnataka (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	53.70
2.	Thrift Fund Scheme	10.00
3.	Health Package Scheme	28.50

In addition, Government of Karnataka has been implementing Group Insurance Scheme, though they did not avail assistance under this scheme in 1997-98.

(c) and (d) Various State Governments, including Karnataka, have been seeking enhanced assistance from time to time under the Welfare Schemes. Central assistance has been released in accordance with the guidelines of the scheme keeping in view the requirement as projected by various States.

(e) Yes, Sir. A New Insurance Scheme of Handloom Weavers covering all States including Bihar has been

introduced during 1997-98 for the welfare of the Handloom Weavers in the country.

(f) The annual funding pattern for coverage of a weaver under the New Insurance Scheme is as follows :

By Central Contribution	Rs. 60/-
By State Contribution	Rs. 40/-
By Weavers Contribution	Rs. 20/-

The New Insurance Scheme will provide coverage against loss or damage to dwelling due to flood, fire, earthquake etc.; damage to contents of the dwelling like looms, raw material etc.; medical coverage and Personal Accidental Insurance against accidental death.

(g) The scheme was formulated in pursuance to the recommendations given in December, 1996 by the High Powered Committee on Handlooms which had toured many States and had consultations with State Governments and others.

(h) The State Governments are pursued from time to time to seek assistance under the Welfare Schemes by sending viable proposals.

**Export of Tea**

2750. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of tea exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of tea export from the North-Eastern State State-wise;

(c) the countries to which India is exporting tea;

(d) the total foreign exchange earned through export of tea during each of the last three years; and

(e) the share of North-Eastern States in the earning of foreign exchange during the said period State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (e) Exports of tea from India during the last three years have been as under :

	Exports		
	Qty. (Mn.kg.)	Value (Rs. crore)	(US \$ Mn.)
1995-96	167.47	1244.52	372.08
1996-97	169.04	1301.46	366.62
1997-98*	211.76	1953.81	525.74

\*Estimated.