

Ministry of Textiles

Important policy decisions and achievements during November, 2018

1. Policy Decisions:

The CCEA in its meeting held on 22nd November, 2018 approved the proposal for extension of mandatory use of jute in packaging for the jute year 2018-19 (from 30/11/2018 till 30/06/2019) under the Jute Packaging Material (JPM) Act, 1987. The approval mandates 100% of the food grains and 20% of the sugar products shall be mandatorily packed in jute bags. The decision also mandates that initially 10% of the indents for foodgrains would be placed through reverse auction on the GeM portal and Sugar will be packed in diversified jute bags under direct purchase by the procuring agencies from the mills or open market.

2. Important Achievements:

i. Handloom Sector:

(a) Under MSME Support and Outreach Programme, various activities are being undertaken in coordination with concerned Weavers' Service Centres in 12 identified districts. Since commencement of the programme, enrolment of weavers has been done for 2666 Pehchan Cards, 2254 skill upgradation/workshed/looms/lighting units, 1924 for Yarn Passbook, 1139 MUDRA loans, 1337 for Social Security (Insurance), 50 registrations for Handloom Mark/India Handloom Brands and 12800 Handloom Mark/IHB labels have been issued. 41 weavers have participated in marketing events.

(b) Two National Level Special Handloom Expo Silk Fab / Marketing Events were held in November, 2018 at Chandigarh & Pune which provided direct market interface between consumer and handloom weavers. 01 International fair viz; International Sourcing Expo, was held at Melbourne, Australia from 22-22nd November 2018 to promote handlooms in overseas market.

ii. Handicraft Sector:

- (a) The MSME Support & Outreach Programme campaign has been launched on 2nd November 2018 with a view to strengthen the ecosystem for MSMEs in 13 identified districts which will run for 100 days. During the programme 28708 artisans participated, 683 application received for Mudra Loan, 1357 applications received for Pahchan I-Card, 980 cards distributed and 35 applications received. 6 more districts namely Bhopal, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Firozabad, Ramagara and Saharanpur have been added for Support and outreach programme for handicrafts sector. During the month of November 2018, 11269 applications mobilized for Pahchan I-Card, 6110 I.D. cards distributed, 3399 Mudra loan applications mobilized, 574 artisans enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana/PMSBY, 80 improved tool kits distributed and 198 artisans participated in marketing events generating sales of Rs. 32.08 lakh.
- (b) “**Deep Utsav**” was organized at Mumbai, Goa, Nagpur, Ahmedabad and Almora under Gandhi Shilp Bazaar component in which total 431 artisans participated generating a sales of Rs. 208 lakhs.

iii. Silk Sector:

Central Silk Board/Silk Mark Organisation of India (SMOI), Hyderabad Chapter has organised National Level Special Handloom Expo at Hotel Green Park, Vishakhapatnam from 21st November to 4th December 2018. The participants came from 12 different states and displayed their range of pure handloom silk products and nearly 9500 consumers visited and made a business turnover of 140 lakhs. A number of dignitaries from state government visited the expo and appreciated the effort of

CSB/SMOI in providing stalls at very nominal rent to the basic handloom weavers.

- iv. **Cotton:** (a) All India arrivals of seed cotton (Kapas) during the month of November 2018 were 29.96 lakh bales. Out of which, 50757 bales of seed cotton have been procured by Cotton Corporation of India under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation.
- (b) The first meeting of Cotton Advisor Board for the Cotton Season 2018-19 was held on 22.11.2018. Representatives from Central Govt., State Govt., Textile Industry, Cotton Trade and Ginning & Pressing Sector attended the meeting. The Cotton scenario was deliberated, also State-wise area, production, import, export and consumption of cotton were discussed.
- v. **Powerloom Sector** : Under the Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers, 2,739 powerloom workers were enrolled by various nodal agencies under the Scheme during November, 2018 with a total GOI share of premium of Rs.4,48,070.
- vi. **Technology Upgradation:** During the month of November, 2018, 110 UIDs have been issued with a project cost of Rs.492.56 crores and subsidy requirement of Rs. 36.77 crore under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS).