

Ministry of Textiles

Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the Month of March, 2020

1. Policy Decisions:

(i) Cabinet decision on expenditure for reimbursing the losses under MSP operations for cotton during the cotton years (October to September) 2014-15 to 2018-19

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 21.3.2020, has given ex-post facto approval for engaging Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd. (MSCCGMFL) to undertake Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in the state of Maharashtra as Sub-agent of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Limited during the cotton years 2017-18 and 2018-19.
- The CCEA also approved to incur an expenditure of Rs. 312.93 crore (Rs. 311.33 crore for CCI Limited and Rs. 1.60 crore for MSCCGMFL) under Revenue Head for reimbursing the losses to CCI and MSCCGMFL on sale of cotton procured under MSP operations during the cotton years (October to September) 2017-18 and 2018-19.
- The CCEA further approved to incur an additional expenditure of Rs. 748.08 crore (Rs. 687.46 crore for CCI Limited and Rs. 60.62 crore for MSCCGMFL) under Revenue Head for reimbursing the losses to CCI and MSCCGMFL on sale of cotton procured under MSP operations during the cotton years (October to September) 2014-15 & 2015-16.
- The approval will help in price support operations of cotton which helps in stabilizing cotton prices and is primarily aimed to safeguard the interests of the farmers and controlling any distress sale.

(ii) Exemption of the provisions of JPM Act, 1987 for the use of HDPE/PP bags in packaging of foodgrains:

The Ministry on 26th March, 2020 approved dilution for use of HDPE/ PP bags to the extent of 1,80,000 bales as requested by Department of Food and Public Distribution.

(iii) Extension of RoSCTL Scheme:

Union Cabinet chaired by Hon'ble PM has given its approval for continuation of Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) from 1st April, 2020 onward until such time that the scheme is merged with Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP). RoSCTL scheme for apparel and made-ups will be continued with effect from 1st April, 2020 without any change in scheme guidelines and rates as notified by Ministry of Textiles till such time that the RoSCTL is merged with RoDTEP. Continuation of RoSCTL beyond 31st March, 2020 is expected to make the textile sector competitive by rebating all taxes/levies which are currently not being rebated under any other mechanism.

2. Important Achievements:

(i) COVID-19 related :

In an effort to combat COVID-19 crisis in country, the Ministry of Textiles has started to work relentlessly in maintaining a smooth supply chain of PPEs (Body Coveralls) and N-95 masks required for use of health professionals to HLL Lifecare Ltd (the procurement arm of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).

(ii) Handlooms Sector:

1746 number of MUDRA loans worth loan amount of Rs. 9.53 crore were sanctioned as well as disbursed too.

(iii) Handicrafts Sector:

- Under domestic marketing events a special marketing event was organized from 5th March to 8th March 2020 for women artisans at Zymkhana Club, New Delhi, wherein 21 women artisans and 4 artisans (2 male and 2 female artisans) demonstrated their skills.
- A special marketing event was also organised for 50 women artisans at dillihaatwef 1 to 15 March 2020.
- A special marketing event on GI crafts was organized at dillihaatwef 15th March to 20th March 2020 where in 60 artisans participated.

- 10 Craft Tourism Villages sanctioned by the Project Approval Monitoring Committee (PAMC) on 06th March, 2020 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles) for setting up of Crafts Tourism Village, under Infrastructure and Technology Development scheme. The details of which are as under :

SI No.	Location of Craft Tourism Village	Craft	Implementing Agency
Craft Tourism Villages of DC (Handicrafts)			
1.	Vadaj Craft Village, Ahmedabad	Applique, Patchwork, Mudwork & Embroidery	Gujarat State Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited
2.	Naini Craft Village, Prayagraj	Moonj Crafts	Institute of Entrepreneurship Development Lucknow
3.	Anegundicraft Village, Koppal, Hampi	Banana fibre crafts, water hyacinth crafts	Karnataka State Handicrafts Development Corporation Bangalore
4.	Kumartuli Craft Village, Kolkata	Clay Idols	EDII, Ahmedabad (Branch office at Kolkata)
5.	Mahabalipuram Craft Village, Chengalpattu	Stone carving crafts, art-metal ware craft	Tamil Nadu State Handicrafts Development Corporation
6.	Taj Ganj Craft Village, Agra	Marble inlay.	UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited Lucknow
7.	Amer Craft Village, Jaipur	Terracotta & Pottery	Urban Improvement Trust, Sikar
Craft Tourism Villages of DC (Handlooms)			
8.	Sharan, Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh	Woollen Shawls & Stoles	Office of Deputy Commissioner Kullu, Himachal Pradesh
9.	Kanihama, Budgam, Srinagar	Kani & Pashmina Shawls	Office of Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Srinagar
10.	Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	Balarampuram Cotton Sari & Dhoti	Uralungal Labour Co-operative Society (ULCS), Kozhikode.

- (iv) **Cotton:** All India arrivals of seed cotton (kapas) during the month of March, 2020 were 32.44 lakh bales. Out of which, 9.59 lakh bales of kapas have been procured by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations.