

Ministry of Textiles

Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the Month of May, 2019

1. Policy Decisions

(i) A meeting of Jute Advisory Board (JAB) was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles) for reviewing the final supply demand scenario of raw jute and mesta for 2018-19 season and to assess prospects of production of new crop in 2019-20 season.

(ii) A meeting of the Empowered Committee (EC) chaired by Secretary (Textiles) under Samarth – Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector under the Skill India Mission was held on 30.05.2019 and a training target of 1, 20,440 was recommended to 18 State Government Agencies and Sectoral Divisions of Ministry of Textiles.

2. Important Achievements:

i. **Handloom Sector:** Under Weavers' Mudra Scheme, credit is provided to handloom weavers at concessional interest rate of 6%, margin money @ Rs.10,000/- per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 03 years. Under the Scheme, 2,34,224 number of MUDRA Loans have been sanctioned since 2014-15 with sanctioned loan amount Rs.964.89 crore of which disbursed amount to the tune of Rs.724.18 crore.

ii. Handicrafts Sector:

(a) International Events

(i) A 3 days festival “**Namaste Stockholm**” organized at Stockholm, Sweden w.e.f 25th May, 2019 and 5 award winning artisans participated in this festival. The programme with a footfall of 20,000 was inaugurated by Ambassador of India in Stockholm and total sales generated during the event were over 4 lakhs rupees.

(ii) A programme of live demonstration of handicrafts was organized w.e.f. 23-26 May 2019 at Yiwu China and a National Merit certificate holder artisan from Odisha participated in the event.

(b) Domestic Events

24 special marketing events were organized w.e.f. 29.5.2019 to 04.06.2019 across the country. Around 1000 artisans were expected to participate in these events.

iii. **Cotton:** All India arrivals of seed cotton (Kapas) during the month of May, 2019 were 16.83 lakh bales. Since market price of kapas was ruling more than support price in all the cotton growing states, Cotton Corporation of India did not procure seed cotton (kapas) under MSP operation.

iv. **Technology Upgradation:** During the month of May, 2019, one UID has been issued with a project cost of Rs. 4.82 crore and subsidy requirement of Rs.0.42 crore under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS).

v. **Powerloom Sector:** Under the Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers, 37,526 powerloom workers were enrolled by various nodal agencies during May, 2019 with Government of India share of premium Rs. 56,04,228.

3. e-Governance: Presently the e-office module is being used in the Ministry for various office matters like File Management System, Personnel Information Management System, Leave Management System etc.

Further, the PFMS – Employees Information System is also being implemented in the Ministry which contains all Pay, GPF, Income Tax etc. related information.

4. Information on the specific steps taken by the Ministry/Department for utilization of Space Technology based tools and applications in Governance and Development:

(i) SILKS (Sericulture Information Linkage Knowledge System) has been developed in collaboration with North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC), Shillong and being used to find out potential areas for development of sericulture in the country. “SILKS” is a single window, ICT (Information and Communication Technology) based information and Advisory Services System for planners, field staff and farmers practicing sericulture. Total 108 districts in 24 States were covered in first phase of the project and 70 districts are being covered under second phase. A “Project Atlas” for Sericulture Development (Phase II: NE states) and SILKS portal for the selected 20 districts was released during a recent workshop held at Guwahati, Assam. The study in the remaining 50 districts (other than NE states) is under progress.

(ii) Central Silk Board (CSB) has also taken up the collaborative project with NESAC, Shillong, Meghalaya in Geo tagging of the assets (plantation and infrastructure) created by CSB and the States with support of various Government funded Projects by utilizing the equipment viz. “NAVSHARE”, a self-contained GAGAN enabled Global Positioning System (GPS) data recorder. A mobile app viz., “SILKS” for Geo tagging of the assets (plantation and infrastructure) as also been developed. NESAC and CSB are in the process of organizing training programmes for the State & CSB Officers/ Scientists of NE States on Geo-tagging of Assets through mobile application.
