

Ministry of Textiles

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

1. Policy Decisions:

- (i) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in its meeting held on 29th October, 2020 approved the proposal for mandatory packaging of foodgrains and sugar in jute material for the Jute Year 2020-21. The decision of the CCEA mandates that 100% of the food grains and 20% of the sugar shall be mandatorily packed in diversified jute bags. Accordingly, notification dated 26.11.2020 issued.
- (ii) A meeting of Empowered Committee (EC) under Samarth scheme chaired by Secretary (Textiles) was held on 20.11.2020 through video conferencing. EC approved empanelment of 06 Industry associations working with MSME textile industry units and Assam Skill Development Mission, Assam and allocated a target for skilling 35300 beneficiaries under the scheme by these agencies.
- (iii) Cabinet has approved PLI Scheme to 10 key sectors for enhancing India's manufacturing capabilities and enhancing exports - Aatmanirbhar Bharat dated 11.11.2020 wherein Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles sector has been approved among the 10 key sectors with a financial outlay of Rs. 10683 cr. Over a period of five years.

(iv) In pursuance to the demand from textile Industry, as part of the process initiated to streamline/simplify the procedures under Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS, following modifications in the guidelines have been issued after approval by Competent Authority:

- The textile industry units claiming subsidy can file application for physical verification after installation and commissioning of the machinery within two years from the date of sanction of team loan subject to production of documentary proof that the order for machinery was placed within one year. (Earlier the units were required to seek approval for second year from Textile Commissioner for extension of timeline beyond one year with proof of pacing order for machinery)
- Minimum loan repayment period for both MSME and non-MSME has been revised to 3 years including moratorium period (earlier it was 5 years for Non-MSME units).

A relaxation has been approved in the 88 days timeline prescribed in ATUFS guidelines for carrying out physical verification of machinery for expediting the backlog verification cases under ATUFS pending due spread of COVID-19 pandemic. This exercise will be completed by 30.06.2021.

2. **Important Achievements:**

(i) **Handlooms Sector:**

- To support the handloom and handicraft sectors and to enable wider market for handloom weavers/artisans/producers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers/artisans on Government e-Market

place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations. As on date, 1,65,416 weavers/artisans/handloom entities have been registered on GeM portal.

- Design Resource Centres (DRCs) are being set up in Weavers Service Centres (WSCs) through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers for creating new designs. 4 such Design Resource Centres have been set up in Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) at Delhi, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Varanasi and the DRCs at Guwahati, Bhubaneswar, Mumbai and Kancheepuram are expected by 6th December 2020.
- Ministry of Textiles has undertaken to develop **Craft Villages** in select Handloom and Handicraft pockets of the country on important tourist circuits for integrated sustainable development of Handlooms, crafts and tourism with the combined effort of both the State and the Central Governments. These Craft Villages are to be set up with the cooperation from the respective State Governments.
- Craft Handloom Village will be able to offer traditional hand-woven products to the consumers and tourists by inspiring knowledge about authentic weaving technique through "hands on" experience. Presently, construction work is going on for Crafts villages at Mohapara (Assam), Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Srinagar (J&K) and

Kollam (Kerala) and the work at Rampur, Bodhgaya (Bihar) will start shortly.

(ii) **Handicrafts Sector:**

a. A **Social Media Campaign** on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram using the hash tag #Local4Diwali was launched on 9th Nov, 2020 by Hon'ble Minister for Textiles urged peoples of India to adopt local handicrafts products and encourage Diwali sales through weavers, artisans, local & small businesses during the Diwali festive season. The campaign was in line with Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan to make India self-reliant and to aware people about the Indian handicrafts and motivates people to buy local handicrafts products.

b. **National Toy Fair:** As Emphasised by Hon'ble PM in his "Man kiBaat" that everyone should "team up for toys" with the focus on the theme of AtmaNirbhar Bharat to promote Indian toy industry including handicrafts and handmade toys products. In this regard following initiatives have been taken so far:

- 13 toy clusters have been identified.
- A **National Action Plan for Indian Toy Story** has been made with collaboration of 14 Ministries/ Dept. of Govt. of India.

- (iii) **Cotton:** All India arrivals of seed cotton (kapas) during the month of November, 2020 were 46.15 lakh bales. Out of which, 22.76 lakh bales of kapas have been procured by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation.
- (iv) **TUFS:** During the month of November 2020, 58 UIDs have been issued with a project cost of Rs. 213.72 Crore and Subsidy requirement of Rs. 20.14 Crore under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS).