

Ministry of Textiles

Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the Month of September, 2018

1. **Policy Decisions:** The validity of the existing mandatory packaging norms under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 has been extended upto 31st October, 2018.

2. **Important Achievements:**
 - i. **Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign :**
 - Hon'ble Minister of Textiles inaugurated the 'Swachhta Hi Seva' Campaign of the Ministry and its organisations on 15.09.2018.

 - Hon'ble Minister of Textiles participated in the 'Shramdaan' and cleanliness drive at the Okhla cluster and the 'Swachhta Hi Seva' Campaign in the neighbourhood of Okhla industrial area. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Minister referred to the garment industry's efforts of making cloth from waste material as a way contributing to sustainable living. She urged the local people to involve themselves in 'Shramdaan' for creating a cleaner and brighter future.

 - Secretary (Textiles) administered the 'Swachhta' pledge on 17.09.2018 to the employees of Ministry and its Organizations. During the campaign, senior officers of the Ministry of Textiles were involved in Shramdaan in various textile clusters and field offices.

 - Other activities such as awareness campaigns through display of banners / standees, workshops on Swachhta, cleanliness drives in the office premises and campaign through social media platforms were organised by the Ministry as well as the organisations under its fold.

 - ii. **Handicrafts Sector:** Handicrafts Awards to eight Shilp Gurus and 25 National Awardees (including Nine Women artisans) were conferred by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chattisgarh in the presence of Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, on 14th September, 2018 for the year 2016 at Raipur (Chhattisgarh).

 - iii. **Handloom Sector:** In order to promote handloom products amongst domestic customers and to enable handloom weavers to sell their products directly to customers, National and State Level Handloom Expo marketing events were organized during September, 2018 in Delhi, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Jamshedpur, Kolkata, Chennai and

Bhubaneswar. The Ministry also participated in “PARYATAN PARV” organized by the Ministry of Tourism at Rajpath, New Delhi. Participation in the International fair viz; India Trade Fair and WHOS NEXT done from at Paris and Tokyo 19th to 21st September, 2018 and 7th to 10th September, 2018 along with 21 and 20 participants each respectively.

- iv. **Cotton:** All India arrivals of cotton during the month of September 2018 were 2.14 lakh bales. Since the market price of raw cotton was trending most of time above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) most of time in September - 2018, only 254 bales were procured by Cotton Corporation of India under MSP. For the cotton year beginning 1st October 2018, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has made elaborate preparations and has opened 331 procurement centres, keeping in view the 26-28% increase in the MSP for 2018-19.
- v. **Powerloom Sector :** Under the **Group Insurance Scheme** for Powerloom Workers, 5,024 powerloom workers were enrolled by various nodal agencies under the Scheme during September, 2018 with a total GOI share of premium of Rs.8,25,920. Under the Modified Group Workshed Scheme, Rs. 2.75 crores was released as subsidy during September, 2018 and the progressive amount released during 2018-19 is Rs. 7.64 crores.
- vi. **Technology Upgradation:** During the month of September, 2018, one UID has been issued out of earlier approval with a project cost of Rs.3.71 crores and subsidy requirement of Rs. 0.19 crore under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS). However, a total of 366 cases have been scrutinized and are under process for approval, with an approximate project cost of Rs. 1,938.65 crores and a subsidy requirement of Rs. 128.55 crores.
- vii. **Study visit of the Public Account Committee (PAC):** During the study visit of PAC (2018-19) a meeting was held at Vishakhapatnam on 17.09.2018 under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Member of Parliament, on Performance Audit Report on TUFS based on C&AG’s Report No. 52 of 2015. The senior officers of the Ministry presented the action so far taken by the Ministry on the recommendations made by the C&AG’s in its said Report.
- viii. **Board Meeting of the National Jute Board (NJB):** The Board of NJB met in Kolkata on 20th September 2018 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles). The Board deliberated on the need for providing an impetus to jute diversification activities including the creation of a ‘Common Jute Resource Centre’ and approved the annual accounts.
