

## **HANDLOOMS**

Handloom Industry which is next to agriculture, is a source of livelihood for about thousands of people. The weaver cooperatives have been organized to ameliorate the economic condition of the weavers by extricating them from the clutches of the master weavers and to bring the weavers above the poverty line. At present the Pondicherry State Weaver Cooperative Society [PONTEX], Pondicherry Cooperative Handloom Export Development Project [PONFAB], 13 primary Weaver Cooperative Societies and one Pondicherry Cooperative Textile Processing Society Ltd. are functioning in the Union Territory of Puducherry. Two Cooperative Spinning Mills one at Puducherry and the other at Karaikal are taking care of supplying the entire needs of yarn to the Handloom Weavers through the 14 Primary Weaver Cooperatives, apart from sales in the outside market. The Handloom Development Programmes aim at strengthening the structure of weaver Cooperative Societies, improving the quality of Handloom fabrics, modernization of the handloom, up gradation of the weaving skills of the craftsmen and creation of more processing facilities. Further Market Development Assistance is given to facilitate the sale of Handloom products. Assistance to PONTEX/PONFAB for modernization of Showroom, for market study in foreign countries for the Export of handloom fabrics, purchase of yarn at concessional rate is contemplated during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. Working capital assistance is extended to the two Cooperative Spinning Mills for business Expansion, Modernization-cum-Rehabilitation Programme, new business activities and better performance. In addition to the Handloom Development Scheme, Schemes such as assistance to weaver during rainy season, pension to weavers, payment of pre-natal and post-natal subsidy, grant of assistance to purchase house-sites to the houseless weavers, issue of free dhothies and sarees, assistance to promote small family norms among handloom weavers, E.S.I. coverage and Insurance Scheme are covered under weavers welfare scheme.

### **PERFORMANCE DURING 2007-08**

- Financial assistance extended to the Pondicherry State Weavers Co-op. Society and 14 primary weavers co-op. societies .
- Assistance such as rainy season subsidy, children education allowance, training to the members, prenatal / postnatal assistance to women members are extended on. Assistance for contribution to ESI scheme for weavers and pension scheme under the Weavers Welfare Scheme are taken up.

- Rainy season subsidy was given to 2,417 weavers.
- Assistance was granted to the Pondicherry cooperative spinning mills, to enable them to increase their working capital requirement for expansion programme.

#### **LIKELY ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2008-09**

- Financial assistance will be extended to 14 Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies, Texpro and 2 Spinning Mills etc.

#### **PROPOSED TARGET FOR 2009-10**

- Financial assistance will be extended to One Apex, 14 Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies, Texpro and 2 Spinning Mills.
- Modernization of existing looms for improving the quality of handloom cloth.
- Providing financial assistance at the old age of the weaver-members.
- Providing assistance to the newly formed weavers cooperative societies.
- to provide 8% Interest Subsidy on working capital loan.
- to improve the dwelling of weaver members of all the primary weavers cooperative societies functioning in this Union Territory by providing financial assistance as subsidy upto Rs.10,000/- per weaver.
- to provide assistance to weavers in the form of grant for taking shares in the Weavers Cooperative Societies.
- to provide assistance to the weavers during rainy season.
- to provide assistance for training of weavers and appraisers.

## OUTLAY AT A GLANCE

Sector : HANDLOOMS

No. of Schemes : 3

Department : CO-OPERATIVE

*(Rs. in lakh)*

Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12 Approved Outlay	:	13807.36
Annual Plan 2007-08 Actual Expenditure	:	1289.93
Annual Plan 2008-09 Approved Outlay	:	1290.00
Annual Plan 2008-09 Revised Outlay	:	1330.00
Annual Plan 2009-10 Proposed Outlay	:	1400.00

*(Rs. in lakh)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12	Annual Plan 2007-08	Annual Plan 2008-09		Annual Plan 2009-10
		Approved Outlay	Actual Expdr.	Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Proposed Outlay
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1.	Handloom Development Scheme	7500.00	603.93	780.00	820.00	820.00
2.	Weavers Welfare Schemes	1007.36	116.00	120.00	120.00	120.00
3.	Investment Assistance to Coop. Spinning Mills for Business Expansion, New Business activities and better performance	5300.00	570.00	390.00	390.00	460.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13807.36</b>	<b>1289.93</b>	<b>1290.00</b>	<b>1330.00</b>	<b>1400.00</b>