

Ministry of Textiles

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

1. Policy Decisions:

- (i) In consonance with the Government of India vision of 'Minimum Government and Maximum Governance', a leaner Government machinery and the need for systematic rationalization of Government bodies, the Government of India has abolished : All India Handicrafts Board w.e.f. 04.08.2020, the All India Powerloom Board w.e.f. 06.08.2020 and the Cotton Advisory Board w.e.f. 03.08.2020 and published in the Gazette of India.
- (ii) The Central Wool Development Board has sanctioned a new project in favour of Karnataka Sheep & Wool Development Corp. Ltd., Govt. of Karnataka to establish one CFC at Ranebennur (Karnataka) for wool processing machine under the component of Wool Processing Scheme of Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP) with total cost of Rs. 2.19 crore. Out of project cost of total Rs. 2.19 crore, financial contribution of CWDB (MOT) is Rs. One crore and Board has released first installment of Rs. 0.22 crore in month of August, 2020. It is expected that wool growers/farmers will get benefitted by getting better price of wool. Moreover, the coarse wool may be utilized for making woollen products. Therefore an attempt has been made to improve and enhance the value of coarse wool, which till now is being discarded as waste or used as manure.

(iii) **Jute Sector:**

(a) MoU signed between Jute Corporation of India and National Seeds Corporation on 19.08.2020 to provide 1000 MT of certified good quality seeds to jute farmers in the year 2021-22.

(b) Awards distributed on 27.08.2020 to the winners of Textile Grand Challenge 2019 organized by Ministry of Textiles to bring forward innovative ideas aimed at phasing out plastic bags.

2. **Important Achievements:**

(i) **COVID-19 RELATED:**

(a) 11 testing Laboratories have been notified who are equipped to conduct testing and certification of **Synthetic Blood Penetration Resistance Test** required for Body-Coveralls for COVID-19 (one at SITRA- Coimbatore, one of DRDO at Delhi and 6 labs of Ordnance Factories distributed all over the country, two Textiles Committee, Mumbai and one at Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad.)

(b) All the above testing laboratories may conduct Synthetic Blood Penetration Resistance Test of samples of Body-Coveralls for COVID-19 received from HLL Lifecare Ltd., BIS or any Government organization and issue Test Results. However, as the BIS has started issuing license for "Body-Coveralls for COVID-19", no lab will issue UCC to any PPE Coverall manufacturer.

(c) Ministry of Textiles is working with MoHFW for supply of PPE Body Coveralls and N-95 Masks required for use of health professional in Government Hospitals. As on 31.05.2020, a total of 1,12,46,615 PPE kits have been supplied domestically. As on 31.08.2020, over 1.36 crore PPE kits and over 2.43 crores N95 masks have been dispatched to HLL Lifecare.

(ii) **Handlooms Sector:**

- (a) Taking a step towards realizing “Atmanirbhar Bharat”, the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister, handloom Export Promotion Council has endeavored to virtually connect the handloom Weavers and exporters from different corners of the country with the International Market. With more than 150 participants from different regions of the country showcasing their products with unique designs and skills, THE INDIAN TEXTILE COURCING FAIR was held on 7th, 10th and 11th August 2020 which attracted considerable attention of the International Buyers.
- (b) In August, 2020 alone, 261 number of MUDRA Loan worth Rs. 13.30 crore were sanctioned as well as disbursed too.
- (c) The National handloom Day was celebrated on 7th August 2020 through virtual mode so as to recognize the contribution of handloom weavers in the Indian economy and foreign exchange earnings. It is platform to honour them and to assist them in augmenting their business.

- (iii) **Cotton:** All India arrivals of seed cotton (kapas) during the month of August, 2020 were 5.64 lakh bales. Out of which, 0.07 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 August, 112 UIDs have been issued with a project cost of Rs. 406.4 Crore and Subsidy requirement of Rs. 33.73 Crore under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS).