

Schemes for Decentralized Powerloom Sector

1. 20% Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for powerloom sector under TUFS

Weaving is a thrust area and occupies a special place under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme. TUFS helps the small scale powerloom units by providing an additional option of availing credit linked 20% capital subsidy upto a cost of Rs. 1.00 crore with the facility to obtain credit from an enlarged credit network that includes all cooperative banks and other genuine non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) recognized by the Reserve Bank of India.

2. Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs)

44 Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) are located in major powerloom concentration areas in different States and provide a variety of technical services that include training, testing facilities, technical consultation, design development and diversification etc to powerloom units and weavers. So far 21 PSCs have been modernized and the rest are being upgraded with modern looms and related machinery and equipment. Plans are afoot to re-orient these Centres into Textile Service Centres catering to other segments of the industry as well. Most of these are under the management of autonomous bodies.

3. Support to Computer Aided Design Centres

Similar to the PSCs, the CAD Centres also play an important role in developing new computer-generated textile designs. At present there are 17 such Centres to give support to the powerloom sector all over the country. Financial assistance in the form of a grant-in-aid of Rs. 6.75 lakh per CADC per annum is provided by the Ministry.

4. Group Workshed Scheme

With a view to improve the working environment and enable powerloom workers to obtain higher productivity, the Central Government has approved a **Group Workshed Scheme**, to provide subsidy for construction of worksheds, limited to 25% of the unit cost of construction subject to a maximum of Rs.80/- per. sq. ft. In order to improve other infrastructure facilities the scheme envisages a link with the Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS), which provides central assistance for improving critical infrastructure in existing or emerging textile centers.

5. Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Weavers

A **Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Weavers** has been introduced in association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India since July 2003. This Scheme has two components-- **Janashri Bima Yojana & Add on GIS for Death**. Under **Janashri Bima Yojana** powerloom workers aged between 18 to 59 years and below the poverty line (BPL) or marginally higher than the BPL are eligible for an insurance coverage of Rs. 50,000 on accidental death / permanent disability; Rs. 25,000 on permanent partial disability; or Rs. 20,000 on natural death / partial disability. The annual premium of Rs. 200 would be shared by the Central Government, the Beneficiary, and LIC in the ratio of Rs. 60, 40 and 100 respectively. Under the **Add on Scheme**, additional insurance coverage of Rs. 30,000 on natural as well as accidental death is made available at annual premium of Rs. 180, which would be shared equally by Central Government and Beneficiary. On paying, a weaver can avail cumulative benefits of both the Schemes.

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