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THE HANDLOOMS DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN TAMIL NADU SINCE THE REMOVAL OF THE EXPORT QUOTA RESTRICTIONS OF THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHINGS UNDER THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION

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ABSTRACT:

The handloom sector occupies a distinct place in the Tamil Nadu economy. The handloom industry is largely household-based, carried out with labour contributed by the entire family or the outsiders. The superiority and popularity of the cloth produced for centuries in Tamil Nadu not only attracted the indigenous market but also the foreign markets for centuries. However, in the recent years the textile industry was facing stiff competition from China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

and Bangladesh. Further, the handlooms could not compete with the products of the power looms and the composite mills in the Indian markets. The emergence of World Trade Organisation (WTO) has significantly affected the economic environment of international business the world over. In 1974, the Multi-Fibre Agreement (MFA) was signed outside the orbit of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). It extended the coverage of discriminatory quotas from cotton textiles to wool and manmade fibres. The MFA remained in force, until the end of 1994. MFA expired with the new the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), entered into force on 1st January 1995, which gradually integrated clothing and textile products and place them under world trade rules by 2005. It facilitated the removal of export quota restriction on textiles and clothing under the WTO. The development of the handlooms depends on the promotion of the marketing of the fabrics in the internal and international markets. Hence, there was need for giving special support for providing developmental scheme for the progress of the handlooms in the cooperative sector. This paper is an attempt to analyse the several developmental programmes implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the Handlooms in the cooperative fold from A.D. 2005 to 2010.

KEYWORDS: Handloom, Modernisation, Capital Subsidy, Dhotis & Sarees, Handloom Cluster % Handloom Group Scheme.

1. Modernisation of Handlooms

The handloom products were traditional in design and quality in compared with the products produced in the mill sector. As a result of the changes in the

fashion, style, taste and preference of the people, the traditional designs produced in the handlooms became outdated. In order to increase the quality of the handloom products and to increase their marketing the Government gave priority for the modernization of the handlooms in the cooperative sector since 1980-81.¹ The modernisation of handloom included the replacing

the part of the looms and changing the old with new one. The Government of India and the State Government of Tamil Nadu shared the financial support in the proportion of 50:50. Of the sanctioned amount for the weavers towards the modernizing the handlooms, 2/3 part of the amount was given as loan and the 1/3 was given as subsidy.² As per the information revealed by the Handlooms and

Textiles Policy and Programme for the Year 1991-92, R. 2000 was fixed for buying an ordinary handloom, Rs. 4000 for jacquard handloom and Rs. 1000 for spare parts for handloom. Under this scheme, 47,038 handlooms were benefitted.³ The Handloom and Textiles Policy and Programme for the year 1993-94 shed information that Rs. 4000 was fixed for buying an ordinary handloom, Rs. 8000 for a jacquard loom and Rs. 2,500 for spare parts. So far under this scheme 54,131 looms got benefitted⁴ at the cost of Rs. 43.31 crores.⁵ On April 7,1992 Mr. V. Tandayuthapani while discussing in the Legislative Assembly about the modernisation process of the handloom by the AIDMK government he said that instead of giving money to buy the looms and accessories, the government could directly supply the articles to the weavers so that it might avoid in cheating.⁶ Further, amount of Rs. 4000 fixed by the government for purchasing a jacquard loom was not sufficient so he requested the government to allot Rs. 12000 to the weavers towards the purchase of a jacquard loom.⁷ But this proposal was not accepted by the Government.

Subsequently, the modernization of the handloom programme of Tamil Nadu Government lost its initial character. A new Integrated and Comprehensive Scheme for the development and Promotion of Handlooms known as Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme was formulated and implemented by the Government of India with effect from 1-04-2000 to check the decadence of the senescent handloom industry. Financial assistance in the form of margin Money to the rate of Rs. 4000/- per weaver would be provided. Under this scheme a grant of Rs. 2000 for purchase of new loom, Rs. 1500/- for doobby, Rs. 2000/- for jacquard and Rs. 1000/- for other accessories would be provided as rebate.⁸ Subsequently, the Government of India had introduced a new scheme known as Integrated Handloom Development Scheme for the implementation during the XIth Plan Period. Regarding the sharing the expenditure between the Central Government and the State Government, the expenses towards a new loom, doobby, jacquard and other accessories were met by the Government of India, State Government of Tamil Nadu and beneficiary in the proportion of 70:20:10.⁹ Under this scheme, Rs. 8000 was given for the purchase of New Looms, Rs. 4000 for the purchase of Dobby, Rs. 6000 for the purchase of Jacquard and Rs. 2000 for the purchase of Loom Accessories.¹⁰ As per the details shed by the Handlooms and Textiles Policy Note for the Year 2009-10 by the Government of Tamil Nadu, under Special Project for Handloom Weavers under Swarna Jayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Handlooms and Textiles Department of the State implemented it at a total cost of Rs. 2530.36 lakhs. The objective of this project is to motivate the handloom weavers, hitherto who have been engaged in the production of cloths for the Free Supply of Dhoties and Sarees Scheme, to enter into design development and product diversification for producing marketable varieties and to ensure higher income for these weavers. Under this project 2096 new looms have been provided and 12506 looms were upgraded with requisite accessories. Hence, the modernization of the handlooms initiated by the government of Tamil Nadu changed its character, due to the new policy and programe introduced by the Government of India. Thus, the modernization of handloom programme shifted from the individual approach to the cluster approach, group approach and self group approach.

2. INTEREST SUBSIDY SCHEME FOR WORKING CAPITAL

The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced the Interest Subsidy Scheme for providing working capital at a normal rate of interest with a view to enable the handloom sector to compete with the mill and power loom sectors. The Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies and the Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (Co-Optex) avail the financial assistance for working capital under the National Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) refinance scheme through the District Central Cooperative Banks and Tamil Nadu Central Cooperative Bank. As per the information revealed by the Handlooms and Textile Policy and Explanation for the Year 1991-92, the banks provided working capital at the concessional interest rate of 7.50 %. In order to get the loan at the normal interest rate, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced a scheme of giving interest concession of 1% for the loan received by the CO-Optex towards the working capital for the sales and 3% interest subsidy was given for the loan borrowed by the Handloom Weavers Primary Societies.¹¹

The interest subsidy scheme was discontinued with effect from 1-10-2002. The Government of Tamil Nadu reintroduced the interest subsidy scheme to the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies and provided 4% subsidy with effect from 01-04-2008 thereby reducing the interest rate for the working capital.¹² During the year 2008-09, the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned Rs. 7.17 crore towards interest subsidy for the quarterly period ended on 30-06-2008, 30-09-2008 and 31-12-2008. Further, a sum of Rs. 2.53 crore would be sanctioned for the quarterly period ended on 31-03-2009. The scheme also would be continued during the year 2009-10.¹³ Thus the interest subsidy scheme adopted by the government helped the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies and the Co-Optex to reduce the interest rate of the working capital and to strengthen their financial position.

3. DEEN DAYAL HATHKARGHA PROTSAHAN YOJANA SCHEME

A new Integrated and Comprehensive Scheme for the development and Promotion of Handlooms known as Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme was formulated and implemented by the Government of India with effect from 1-04-2000 to check the decadence of the senescent handloom industry. This scheme aims to improve the various components of handloom sector such as basic inputs, infrastructure support, design input, publicity, and marketing incentives/rebate and strengthen handloom organizations with the funding pattern of 50: 50 bases between the Central and State Government¹⁴. Financial assistance in the form of margin Money to the rate of Rs. 4000/- per weaver would be provided. Under this scheme a grant of Rs. 2000 for purchase of new loom, Rs. 1500/- for doobby, Rs. 2000/- for jacquard and Rs. 1000/- for other accessories would be provided as rebate.^{15,16} Under this scheme financial assistance would be given to the Primary Weavers' Cooperative Societies for setting up of Water and Effluent Treatment Plants, setting up of Common Facility Centres to carry out warping, pre and post loom operation etc.¹⁷ The State level Handloom Organisations/Apex Societies having turnover of more than Rupees five crores and Primary Societies with turnover of more than Rs. 25 lakh in the preceding year would be eligible to get one time assistance in the form of grant of rupees five lakh per institution for provision of designs and installation of Computer Aided Design system to improve the design quality of the products. The weavers' Societies were also eligible to get one-time assistance in the form of grant of one lakh to avail the services of National Institute of Design, national Institute of Fashion Technology, Weavers' Service Centres, etc.¹⁸ Financial assistance would be given at the maximum of rupees five lakh would be given for the expenditure towards publicity, advertisement, printing of brochures/catalogues, market research and market survey/studies and the production of films for the promotion of the sale of handlooms.¹⁹ Financial assistance would be given towards the financial restructuring the State Handlooms Corporation and the Apex Weavers' Cooperative Societies/Federations with a view to making them viable by enhancing their credit limit/working capitals, etc.²⁰ The Central government sanctioned Rs 472.07 lakhs for the year 2002-03 and the first installment of Rs 235.53 lakhs was allotted. Further, the second installment of Rs 91.59 lakhs for the year 2001-02 altogether Rs 327.12 lakhs was allotted during 2002-03.²¹ The Budget for the year 2003-04 sanctioned Rs 220.01 lakhs under this scheme towards the expenses for five items excluding support for sale of the handloom fabrics.²² Under this scheme, a provision of Rs. 1190.01 lakh was allotted in the Revised Budget for the year 2006-07.²³

As per the G.O.Ms.No.117, dated 17.8.2007 orders was issued for the Sanction of a sum of Rs.65,02,500/- (Rupees Sixty five lakhs two thousand and five hundred only) towards final installment of grant component for implementation of projects by 43 Weavers Co-operative Societies in various circles of the State under the Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme for the year 2004-2005.²⁴ G.O.Ms.No.123, dated 23.8.2007, a Sanction of a sum of Rs.1,23,27,000/- (Rupees One crore twenty three lakhs and twenty seven thousand only) was accorded towards final installment of grant component for implementation of projects by 102 Weavers Co-operative Societies in various circles of the State under the Deendayal Hathkargh Protsahan Yojana Scheme for the year 2004-2005.²⁵ The Government also sanctioned a sum of Rs. Rs.95,60,000/- (Rupees Ninety five lakhs and sixty thousand only) towards final instalment of grant component for implementation of projects by 76 Weavers Co-

operative Societies in various circles of the State under the Scheme Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme for the year 2004-2005.²⁶ Further, the Government sanctioned the final installment of grant component for implementation of projects by 63 Weavers Co-operative Societies in various circles of the State under the Scheme Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme for the year 2004-2005.²⁷

4. FREE DISTRIBUTION OF SAREES AND DHOTIS SCHEME.

The free distribution of sarees and dhotis and the free uniform scheme for the school students started in A.D. 1989.²⁸ The Government of Tamil has introduced the free distribution of Sarees and dhotis to the rural landless agricultural labourers, those living below the poverty line in Urban and rural areas rural artisans and fishermen diving the pongal season.²⁹ This programme has the dual objectives of providing basic clothing to the poor and ensuring a means of living to handloom weavers.³⁰ The Handloom weavers' co-operatives societies and the power loom weavers' Co-operative societies were engaged in the production of sarees and dhotis needed for the free distribution scheme.³¹ The Government of Tamil Nadu entrusted the responsibility of procuring the sarees and dhoties for the free distribution to the Co-Optex. The Government allotted Rs.129 crores for the distribution of sarees and dhotis for the year 2001-2002 in the Budget for the same year.³² Under the free distribution scheme for the year 2001-2002, 45 Lakhs dhotis and 45 lakh sarees were procured.³³

In view of the uneconomic production process and the complications involved in inefficient distribution to the beneficiaries particularly to the deserving poor, government have discontinued the scheme from the financial year 2002-2003. The government was intended to provide very quickly alternative higher economic value added weaving activities involving new technologies to the weavers who were involved in producing dhotis and sarees for in the distribution scheme.³⁴ The Government of Tamil Nadu subsequently issued an order through G.O. (MS) No. 127, dated 27-11-2002 that a new scheme known as Low Cost Sarees and Dhoties Scheme to be implemented to give alternative employment to 15000 handloom wavers. It also ordered the Co-Opex to produce 35 lakh sarees and 14 lakh dhoties under the Low Cost Sarees and Dhoties Schemes for the year 2002-2003.³⁵ The same to be sold through the Fair Shops, Co-Optex showrooms, Government Departments / Government undertakings, other institutions and public at the rate of Rs. 40 for ordinary Cotton Handloom Saree, Rs. 30 for ordinary Handloom Dhoti, Rs. 40 for Power loom Saree, Rs. 30 for Power loom Dhoti, Rs. 55 for Polycot Saree, Rs. 45 for Polycot Dhoti and Rs. 100 for Salwar Kameez.³⁶

The discontinuation of the Free Distribution of Sarees and Dhotis Scheme created several problems. The free distribution of sarees and dhoties scheme was reintroduced in the year 2004 and supplied 111 lakh polycot sarees and 111 polycot dhoties during Pongal 2004 at the expenses of Rs 173 crores.³⁷ The Handlooms and Textile Explanation Note for the Year 2006-07 reveals that under this scheme, 11,000 handloom weavers and 23,000 power loom weavers in the cooperative sector were getting employment. Further, 3.28 crores people also got benefitted by receiving the free Sarees and Dhoties.³⁸ The Government also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 256 crores for the speedy implementation of the Scheme of Free Supply of 164 lakhs Sarees and 164 lakhs Dhoties for Pongal 2008.³⁹ This scheme would provide continuous employment to 15,000 handloom weavers and 25000 power loom workers in the Co-operative fold and fulfilled the clothing needs of nearly 3.053 crore poor people. Under this scheme, 152.15 lakh dhoties and 153.15 lakh sarees were produced by the Handloom and power loom Weavers' Cooperative Societies and supplied towards distribution for Pongal 2009. The distribution of Dhoties and Sarees for Pongal 2009 was inaugurated on 01-01-2009 by the chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.⁴⁰ The Government announced that a scheme for the Free Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties would be continued during the year 2009-2010 and a sum of Rs. 256 crores was allotted.⁴¹ In fact, the scheme of free Distribution of Sarees and Dhotis of the Government of Tamil Nadu was started with the objective of providing sustainably employment to the handloom weavers but subsequently due to the change policy the government subsequently procured as much as 75% of its requirements from the power looms in the cooperative sector. The free sarees and dhoties system was introduced with two objectives. First to provide employment to the hand loom weave in the Co-operative sector. Another was

to provide sarees and dhoties to the poor and landless people. But sometimes there was corruption and malpractice took place in the purchase and distribution.

5. INTEGRATED HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IHDS)

The Government of India had introduced a new scheme known as Integrated Handloom Development Scheme for the implementation during the XIth Plan Period by merging various components of the existing Weavers' Welfare and development schemes namely Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Scheme (DDHPY), Workshed-Cum-Housing Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project and Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme. The Integrated handloom Development Scheme is focusing on a Cluster/Group Approach.⁴² The Centrally sponsored Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme aims at facilitating sustainable development of handloom weavers located in identified handloom clusters into a cohesive, self managing and competitive socio-economic unit is being implemented in Tamil Nadu by the State Government.⁴³ This scheme has four parts. The various components of the schemes are (A) The Cluster Development Programme: Clusters having handlooms in the range of 300-500 per Cluster (B) Group Approach to be implemented in the project mode outside the cluster in contiguous geographical areas (C) Assistance for Handloom organization and (D) Assistance for Innovative ideas and Publicity and Monitoring, Supervision and Evaluation of the Scheme.⁴⁴

The cluster development approach focuses on formation of weavers' groups as a visible entity so that the groups become self-sustainable. Under this programme, handlooms in the range of 300 to 500 looms grouped as handloom clusters and financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 60 lakh is being provided for each cluster over a period of three years, for various components, such as skill upgradation, purchase of new looms and accessories, setting up of dyeing units, common facility centres, opening of showrooms, conducting exhibition/fairs, publicity, providing of design inputs etc⁴⁵. The Government of India sanctioned 3 handloom clusters namely Tiruchirapalli, Tiruvannamalai and Kurinjipadi at the project cost of Rs. 200 lakh each altogether Rs. 600 lakhs during the year 2006-07 to be implemented through the Co-Optex/Textile Committee.⁴⁶ The Government of India sanctioned for setting up of 25 Handloom Clusters i.e. 10 Clusters under Phase II to be implemented through the Co-Optex and 15 Clusters under Phase III to be implemented through the Department of Handloom and Textiles in Tamil Nadu at a total project cost of Rs. 1473.72 lakhs. Of this Rs. 579 lakhs was sanctioned for project under Phase II and Rs. 876.72 lakhs under Phase III for the implementation of the Cluster Development Programme for the year 2007-2008. The Government of India released a sum of Rs. 402.887 lakhs towards first installment of grant component for the implementation of the scheme. Of this a sum of Rs. 179.500 lakhs was released for Phase II and Rs. 223.387 lakhs for Phase III programme.⁴⁷ Along with this the State Government sanctioned Rs. 19.250 lakhs as its share for the Phase II of 10 Clusters and Rs. 40.152 lakhs for Phase III of 15 Clusters. So the Government of Tamil Nadu issued order sanctioning a sum of Rs. 462.289 lakhs towards first installment of grant component for the implementation of 25 Handloom Clusters in Phase II and Phase III for the year 2007-08.⁴⁸ The Government of India also sanctioned an approval for setting of Nine Handloom Clusters under Phase IV Programme for the year 2008-09 to be implemented through the Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation at a total project cost of Rs.512.34 lakhs to be setup in various districts of Tamil Nadu. Of the project cost, the share of the Government of India was Rs. 458.773 lakhs, state government share Rs. 42.853 lakhs and beneficiary share Rs. 10.714 lakhs for the year 2008-2009.⁴⁹

The Government of India has also approved three Cluster Development Programmes in Esalam in Villupuram District, Tirumalpur in Kancheepuram District and Dadagapatti in Salem District under the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme for the implementation by Weavers Service Centre at Chennai, Kancheepuram and Salem for the year 2008-09 at total financial outlay of Rs. 179.86 lakhs, of which the share of the Central Government was Rs. 156.542 lakhs, the State Government's share was Rs. 18.862 lakhs and the beneficiaries share was Rs. 4.456 lakhs.⁵⁰ The Government of India also sanctioned four Handloom Clusters in Phase VI under the IHDS for the year 2010-2011.⁵¹ The Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned and released a sum of Rs. 70,22,510 of which the share of the

Government of India was Rs. 61,83,680 and the share of the State Government was Rs. 8,38,830 towards the first installment of the grant component of the implementation of four Handloom Clusters in the Phase VI during the year 2010-2011.⁵² The Government of India released a sum of Rs. 45,73,790 towards a second installment of implementation of the Four Handloom Clusters in the Phase VI.⁵³ The Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned a sum of Rs. 54,10,310, of which the share of the Government of India was Rs. 45,73,790 and the share of the Government of Tamil Nadu was Rs. 8,36,520 towards the second installment for the implementation of the Four Handloom Cluster Development in Phase VI for the year 2010-2011.⁵⁴

There is another programme known as the Group Approach for the development of Handlooms Weavers who are not covered by the clusters under the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme. A Group should have preferably 10 weavers or more which can be in the form of Self Help Group/Primary Weavers Cooperative Society/other independent/individual weavers. The component of Group Approach Projects are the development of basic inputs such as margin money, purchase of new looms, purchase of doobby, purchase of Jacquard and purchase of loom accessories; skill upgradation training includes the training for weaving, dyeing, designing and managerial training and the construction of work sheds.⁵⁵ The Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 6,58,01,225/- for the implementation of 74 Group Approach projects for the year 2008-09 and released Rs. 3,30,70,897 towards first installment. The Government of Tamil Nadu has released a sum of Rs. 79,41,205 towards the project for the year 2009-10.⁵⁶ The Central Government sanctioned 45 Group Approach projects for the year 2009-10 at a total cost of Rs. 503.34 lakh for implementation. Of this Government of India share was Rs. 3,65,82,550, the State Government's share was Rs.1,03,65,650 and the share of the beneficiary was Rs. 33,85,900. The Government of India released a sum of Rs. 2,75,61,912 out of Central government share towards the first installment grant component⁵⁷. The State Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned Rs. 78,09,404 as its share towards first installment of grant component for the implementation of 45 Group Approach Projects for the year 2009-2010.⁵⁸ In spite the Government spent a huge amount of money the expected target was not achieve due to low wage system for the handloom weavers, changing policy of the government, issues connected with the over stockage of handloom products and instability of the markets in India and in the foreign countries.

¹ Handlooms and Textiles Policy and Programme for the year 1991-92,(Here in after HTPP), *Tamil Nadu legislative Assembly Debate* (Here in after *TNLAD*), dt. 20th September 1991, p. 231 and HTPP for the year 1993-94, *TNLAD*, dt. 26th April 1993, Vol. 41, No.2, p. 873

² *Ibid.* and *TNLAD*, dt. February 8, 1993, Vol.31, No.2, P.80

³ HTPP for the Year 1991-92, *TNLAD*, dt. 20th September 1991, p. 231

⁴ HTPP for the Year 1993-94, *TNLAD*, dt. 26th April 1993, Vol. 41, No.2, p.873

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *TNLAD*, dt, April 7, 1992, Vol.23, No.2, P.260

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Handloom and Textile Policy Note, 2006-07,(Here in after HTPN) Demand No.17, Handlooms, Handicraft, Textiles and Khadi Department, Government of Tamil Nadu and HTPN, 2006-07, TNLAD*, dt. 12 August 2006, Vol. 10, No. 2, pp.648-50

⁹ G.O. (Ms) No. 164, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt 03- 12-2009, p. 5

¹⁰ HTPN for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17, p.13. http://www.tn.gov.in /policy notes/pdf/HHTK_handlooms_textiles.pdf. Accessed on 27/08/2009

¹¹ HTPN for the Year 1991-92, *TNLAD*, dt. 20th September 1991, p.228 and HTPN for the Year 2001-2002, *TNLAD*, dt. 11th September 2001, Vol.11, No.1, pp. 248-49

¹² HTPN for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17, p. 14,

http://www.tn.gov.in/policynotes/pdf/HHTK_handlooms_testiles/pdf. Accessed on 27-08-2009

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Tamil Nadu – An Economic Appraisal, 2001-02*, p. 81

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¹⁶ HTPN, 2006-07, Demand No.17, *op.cit.*, and HTPN, 2006-07, TNLAD, dt. 12 August 2006, *op.cit.*, pp.648-50

¹⁷ HTPN, 2006-07, Demand No.17, *op.cit.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ HTEN for the year 2003-2004, p.31

²² *Ibid.*

²³ HTEN 2006-07, Demand No.17, *op.cit.*

²⁴ G.O.Ms.No.117, Dated 17.8.2007, **HHT&K Department**

²⁵ G.O.Ms.No.123, Dated 23.8.2007, **HHT&K Department**

²⁶ G.O.Ms.No.131, Dated 10.9.2007, **HHT&K Department**

²⁷ G.O.Ms.No.157, Dated 23.10.2007, **HHT&K Department**

²⁸ TNLAD, dt. 16th August 1996, Vol. 12, No.1, P.63

²⁹ G.O. (MS). No. 74, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 30.07.2002. P.1

³⁰ Address of the Governor to the Tamil Nadu legislative Assembly, TNLAD, dt. 14 March 1995, PP.625 and 650.

³¹ Policy and Resolutions of Handloom and Textiles for the year 1996-97, TNLAD, dt. 16th August 1996, P.170

³² The Budget Report of the Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 2001-2002, dt. 18th August, 2001.

³³ G.O. (MS) No. 74, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 30.7.2002, P.1

³⁴ G.O. (MS) No. 74, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 30.7.2002, PP.1-2.

³⁵ G.O (MS) No. 127, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 27-11-2002, P.1

³⁶ *Ibid.* and G.O. (MS) No. 47, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 31-07-2003

³⁷ **TNLAD, dt. 30th July 2004, p.63**

38 *Ibid.*

39 **G.O. (MS) No. 53, HHT&K (D2) Department dt. 2-04-2007, P.5**

40 **HTPN for the year 2009-10, Demand. No. 17, op.cit., P.5**

⁴¹ G.O.(MS) No.44, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 18-05-2009, P.1 and HTPN for the year 2009-2010, Demand No.17, *op.cit.*, P.5

⁴² G. O. (MS) No. 38, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 25-03-2010, p. 1

⁴³ HTPN for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17, p.8. *op.cit.*

⁴⁴ G. O. (MS) No. 38, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 25-03-2010, p. 1

⁴⁵ HTPN for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17, p.8, *op.cit.*

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, p.11.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 1-2 and G.O. (Ms) No. 36, dt. 31-03-2008

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

The Cluster in Phase II Scheme sanctioned sharing the Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu were 1. Nilayur, 2. Palani 3. Veeravanallur 4. Padirivedu 5. Jayamkondam 6. Kancheepuram 7. Appakudal 8. Sholinghur 9. Sirumugai and 10. Thandampalayam. The Clusters sanctioned under the Phase III Programme were 1. Karur, 2. Emaneswaram, 3. Edapadi, 4. Gopi, 5. Chennimalai, 6. Palliyadi, 7. Tiruppur, 8. Punalveli, 9. Kumbakonam, 10. Attayampatti, 11. Vandiyur, 12. Sayerpuram, 13. Chinnalapatti, 14. Gudiyatham and 15. Pudupettai. (G.O (Ms) No. 38, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 25-03-2010, p.2)

⁴⁹ From the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, government of India better No. 1/26/TN/2008-DCH/IHDS(c)/sanction/phase IV, 10-7-2008

The 9 clusters sanctioned by the central government were; 1. Pillayar palayam in Kanchipuram District; 2. Nadu Veerapattu in Cuddalore District; 3. Ayyampettai in Thanjavur District; 4. Paramathivellore in Namakal District; 5. Pollachi in Coimbatore District; 6. Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram District; 7.

Sellur in Madurai District ;8. Srivilliputhur in Virudhunagar District; and 9. Doddampalayam in Erode District.

⁵⁰ G.O (Ms) No. 164, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 03-12-2009, p.7

⁵¹ From the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, F.No.1/26/TMN/2010/DCH/IHDS©/San, dt. 25-03-2013. The four clusters were 1. Arni Cluster in Tiruvannamalai District, 2. Pallavar Cluster in Kancheepuram District, 3. Rasipuram Super Cluster in Tiruchencode District and 4. Varadharaja Cluster in Kancheepuram District

⁵² G.O (Ms) No. 174, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 02-08-2013

⁵³ From the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, F.No.1/26/TMN/2010/DCH/IHDS©/San, dt. 25-03-2013.

⁵⁴ G.O (Ms) No. 174, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 02-08-2013

⁵⁵ GO (Ms) No. 43, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 31-03-2010 and Handlooms and Textiles Policy note for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17.

http://www.tn.gov.in/policynotes/pdf/HHTK_handlooms_textiles.Pdf. Accessed on 27/08/2009

⁵⁶ Handlooms and Textiles Policy note for the Year 2009-10, Demand No. 17.

http://www.tn.gov.in/policynotes/pdf/HHTK_handlooms_textiles.Pdf. Accessed on 27/08/2009

⁵⁷ From the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Letter No.2/26/2009-DCH/IHDS/TN/(G)/Sanction, dt.26-02-2010

⁵⁸ Go. (Ms) No 43, HHT&K (D2) Department, dt. 31-03-2010, p. 3