The Textile Industry/Weavers

The textile sector is the second largest provider of employment after agriculture.

Indian textile industry contributes about:

- 14% to the industrial production
- 11% to the country’s export earnings
- 4% to the GDP

Handloom weaving

Provides direct and indirect employment to more than 43 lakh weavers and allied workers.

- 95% of the world’s hand-woven fabric comes from India.
- The average income of a weaver is rarely more than ₹50 per day.
- On average, the handloom workers worked only 183 days in 2009-10.
- Nearly 37% of weaver households hold BPL ration card.

Due to migration, the number of handloom weavers has declined by about 33% to 43.3 lakh (4.3 million) during the last 15 years.

Out of which, 36.33 workers stay in rural areas and 6.98 workers stay in urban areas.

Andhra Pradesh has always been a major producer of Handloom textiles and has the second highest number of looms and workers among all the states, next only to West Bengal.

Handloom worker households were estimated at 27,83,271.

Almost 87% of the total households were rural.

77.9% of the total adult handloom workers are female, of which 88.2% resides in rural areas.

22.1% of the total adult handloom workers are male, of which 69.3% reside in rural areas.

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