

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Industries & Commerce Department – Approval of the Proposal for provision of Free Power upto 200 units per month to Handloom Weaver Households and Free Power up to 500 units per month to Powerloom Units, to implement the assurance of the Government towards safeguarding the interest of the handloom weavers and sectors thereon, duly providing the necessary budgetary support through Energy Department for ease of implementation – Orders – Issued.

INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE (PROGRAMME – II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 44

Dated: 26-03-2025

Read the following:

- 1) G.O.Rt.No..291, Ind., & Com., (Prog.II) Dept., Dt.25.09.2018.
- 2) G.O.Ms.No..518, Ind., & Com.,(Tex) Dept., Dt.12.10.2001.
- 3) G.O.Rt.No..691, Ind.,& Com., (Tex) Dept., Dt.04.12.2013.
- 4) G.O.Rt.No..31, Energy (Power-III) Dept., Dt.22.02.2024.
- 5) From the Commissioner of Handlooms & Textiles, AP,
e-file bearing C.No.2717548

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, Government have issued orders to accord free electricity up to 100 Units per month per connection to Handloom Weavers in the state. In the reference 2nd read above, Government issued orders to reduce power tariff for Powerloom units from Rs.1.74 per unit to Rs.0.87 per unit upto 5HP load w.e.f. 01.10.2001. In the reference 3rd read above, Government have issued orders for continuation of the 50% Power Subsidy Scheme from 01-04-2010 to 31-03-2012 and also after 01-04-2012 to Powerloom Weavers in the State.

2. In the reference 4th read above, the Government have issued orders to reduce the Electricity Duty to 0.06 paise per unit from Rs.1.00 per unit to Power loom weavers to reduce the additional burden to the Power loom Weavers.

3. The Commissioner of Handlooms & Textiles, Andhra Pradesh has informed that the Handloom Sector is the second largest employment provider after agriculture, having approximately 93,000 Handloom Weaver Households and 10,534 Powerloom Units in the State. The Handloom Industry in Andhra Pradesh spread over in almost all districts and each district has its own unique products viz Mangalagiri sarees & dress materials, Dharmavaram silk sarees, Venkatagiri silk & cotton sarees, Uppada Jamdhani sarees, Chirala Kuppadam cotton & silk sarees & dress materials, Kodumuru Gadwal cotton & silk sarees, Madhavaram cotton sarees,

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Peddapuram silk fabrics, Double Cloth Bed-sheets of Srikakulam and Guntur districts etc. Out of (98) products as “One District One Product” identified by Gol, (34) products are from Handloom Sector, showing its greater significance. The Handloom weaving in the State has historically been a multi-generational profession, deeply rooted in family traditions and cultural heritage. However, this legacy is under significant threat due to increase in overheads such as steep hike in raw material, dyes & chemicals costs etc., adding to the lesser wages compared to other sectors. The Government has increased the monthly pension to handloom weavers from 3,000 per month to 4,000 per month since April 2024, on par with other eligible category of social security benefit scheme, to provide some relief.

4. Keeping the alarming situation into consideration and to implement the assurance of the Government towards safeguarding the interest of the handloom weavers and sectors thereon, the Commissioner of Handlooms & Textiles, Andhra Pradesh has requested to accord permission for providing Free Power upto 200 units per month to about 93,000 Handloom Weaver Households and Free Power up to 500 units per month to about 10,534 Powerloom Units with a financial implication of about Rs.125 Cr per annum and to sanction necessary budget to the Energy Department so as to recoup the cost to the DISCOMS for the seamless execution of the scheme. Further, it is proposed that if consumption of 200 units exceeds by the Handloom Weaver Household and exceeds 500 Units by the Powerloom Unit, the charges will be applicable as per the DISCOMS Rules/Regulations for the exceeded units.

5. After careful examination of the proposal, Government agrees to provide Free Power upto 200 units per month to Handloom Weaver Households and Free Power up to 500 units per month to Powerloom Units, towards safeguarding the interest of the handloom weavers and sectors thereon, duly providing the necessary budgetary support through Energy Department.

6. The Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for effecting the scheme will be issued by the Department in consultation with Energy Department, post approval of the intervention.

7. The Commissioner of Handlooms & Textiles, Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh shall take necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

N YUVARAJ
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Handlooms & Textiles, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.
The Special Chief Secretary to Government, Energy Department.

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Copy to:

The General Administration (Cabinet) Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
(w.r.t. the Council Resolution UO.No.83/2025, dt.17.03.2025.)

The P.S. to Spl. Chief Secretary to Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh.

The P.S. to Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles

The P.S. to Hon'ble Minister for Energy Department.

The Accountant General, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

The P.S. to Chief Secretary to Government, Andhra Pradesh.

The P.S. to Principal Finance Secretary, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi.

The P.S. to Secretary to Government, Finance Department

The P.S. to Prl., Secretary to Government, Handlooms & Textiles.

SF/SC.(2717548)

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER