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DRAFT REGULATIONS

**THE HANDLOOM MARK STANDARDS
(LABELLING AND DISPLAY)
REGULATIONS, 2025**

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES



ISSUING AUTHORITY

Textiles Committee
Ministry of Textiles
Government of India
P. Balu Road, Prabhadevi Chowk,
Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400 025

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In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 23 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 (41 of 1963), and in line with the Certification Trade Mark registered under Section 71 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999, the Central Government hereby makes the following regulations to regulate the use, labelling, display, and publicity of handloom products under the Handloom Mark Scheme administered by the Textiles Committee, as per the powers entrusted to it.

1. Short Title and Commencement

- a) These regulations may be called the **Handloom Mark Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2025**.
- b) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) *Act* means the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 (41 of 1963);
- b) *Committee* means the Textiles Committee established under the Act;
- c) *Handloom Fabric* is defined as textile material produced on:
 - Looms manually operated to achieve primary motions
 - Traditional pit looms, frame looms, or similar manual weaving machine
 - Looms where the weaver manually controls the entire weaving process
- d) *Handloom product* means any textile product manufactured on handlooms as defined under the relevant provisions and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Textiles or the Textiles Committee;
- e) *Handloom Mark* means the certification mark granted under the Handloom Mark Scheme by the Textiles Committee to authenticate handloom products;
- f) *Licensee* or *Authorized User* means any individual, cooperative society, manufacturer, or entity registered under the Handloom Mark Scheme for the use of the Handloom Mark;
- g) *Label* means a Handloom Mark Label issued or authorized by the Textiles Committee bearing a Handloom mark logo, unique number and printed security features;
- h) *Publicity* means any representation or advertisement in print, digital, electronic, or other media indicating the product is handloom or bears the Handloom Mark;
- i) *Implementing Agency* refers to the Textiles Committee designated by the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India to manage and implement the Scheme.

3. Description of the Applicant and nature of business

The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms-DC(HL), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, has formulated the **Handloom Mark (Origin Marking) Scheme** (hereinafter referred to as the *Scheme*) with the objective of establishing a unified and credible identity for the diverse range of handloom products across the country. The Scheme is intended to enhance price realization for genuine

handloom producers and provide assurance to consumers regarding the authenticity and origin of handloom products.

The DC (HL), being a department of the Central Government entrusted with the overall development and promotion of the handloom sector, is the proprietor and applicant for registration of the Certification Trade Mark under the provisions of the Trade Marks Act, 1999. The Certification Mark, as graphically depicted in Schedule I (hereinafter referred to as the *Mark*), may be affixed to handloom products in the form of a printed taffeta label or by stitching or tag-pinning, depending on the nature of the fabric and product.

As the rightful owner of the Certification Mark, the DC (HL) is authorized to administer and oversee the implementation of the Scheme through the **Textiles Committee**, a statutory body constituted under the Textiles Committee Act, 1963, functioning under the Ministry of Textiles. The DC (HL) and the Textiles Committee are both public bodies and do not engage in the commercial trade of handloom products or goods falling under the purview of the certification scheme. Their role is limited to regulation, oversee, and promotion of the objectives of the Scheme in the public interest.

4. Scope of the Regulation

- a) These regulations shall apply to:
 - All products **claimed, described, marketed, sold, displayed, or advertised as "Handloom"**;
 - All entities involved in the **production, sale, export, or distribution of handloom products** including but not limited to Individual handloom weavers, Master weavers, Primary Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies, Apex Societies, State Handloom Corporations, manufacturer exporters, organization engaged in handloom-related activities and approved to avail benefits under any scheme of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms – DC (HL).
 - All domestic and export handloom goods;
 - Any individual or organization seeking to use the Handloom Mark for their promotional or commercial purposes.
- b) Participation by entities not explicitly listed may be permitted upon approval by the DC (HL).
- c) The Scheme is applicable to whole of the country.

5. Mandatory Use of Handloom Mark Label

- a) Every product that is marketed, sold, exhibited for sale, or promoted as "Handloom" must bear a valid Handloom Mark Label.
- b) The Label shall be affixed by stitching, tag pin, or other approved means, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Textiles Committee.
- c) The Label shall not be reused, duplicated, transferred, or tampered with.
- d) Display or sale of any product as "Handloom" without such labelling shall be deemed misleading.

- e) Every producer, including individual weavers and producing societies, shall be registered under the Handloom Mark Scheme prior to affixing the Handloom Mark Label on any Handloom product.

6. Obligations of the Licensee / Authorized User

Every Licensee or Authorized User shall:

- a) Ensure that only genuine handloom products are labelled with the Handloom Mark;
- b) Maintain records of raw material procurement, production, sales, and label usage;
- c) Submit periodic reports and self-certifications on the handloom authenticity of labelled products;
- d) Facilitate inspection, audit, and verification by authorized officers;
- e) Not permit any third party to use the Handloom Mark without express authorization.
- f) In the case of traders or sellers, not registered under the Handloom Mark Scheme, shall ensure that every handloom product they market, sell, or distribute carries the Handloom Mark label and is traceable to its origin by maintaining documentation that links the product to the weaver or loom of production.

7. Prohibition of Misuse

No person shall:

- a) Use or affix the Handloom Mark Label without registration or authorization under the Scheme;
- b) Display or advertise any product as "Handloom" unless duly certified and labelled;
- c) Counterfeit, alter, or reuse Handloom Mark Labels;
- d) Use any mark or logo deceptively similar to the Handloom Mark;
- e) Mislead consumers through false labelling or claims.

8. Registration and Monitoring

- a) Applications for registration shall be submitted to the Regional Offices of the Textiles Committee (ROTC) in prescribed documentation.
- b) On-site verification will include checking looms, Personnel, records, production activities, and supply chains.
- c) Registration shall be confirmed after successful verification and agreement execution.
- d) Continued authorization shall be contingent upon periodic monitoring and label usage.
- e) Textiles Committee shall periodically publish advisories or blacklists against repeated or willful misuse of the Handloom Mark.

9. Label Distribution and Record Keeping

- a) Labels will be issued upon payment of prescribed fees fixed by the Textiles Committee from time to time.
- b) Label entitlements may be based on previous consumption or verified need.
- c) Non-utilization of labels for over five consecutive years will trigger re-verification.

10. Inspection, Search and Seizure

- a) Authorized officer/person of Textiles Committee or O/o DC (HL) may conduct inspection(s) of premises, verify accounts, Handloom(s) and examine products.
- b) In case of violation, the Textiles Committee may seize labels, records, or products.
- c) Due process including issuance of notice and opportunity of hearing shall be followed before penal action.

11. Penal Provisions

- I. Any person found violating these regulations shall be liable under *clause (17) of the Textiles Committee Act*.
- II. Without prejudice to the generality of sub-rule (1), the following specific provisions shall apply:
 - (a) Any unauthorized use, falsification, or counterfeiting of the Handloom Mark Label shall attract penalties under *Section 103 and Section 104 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999*, including imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine, or with both.
 - (b) Any person falsely applying the Handloom Mark or a deceptively similar mark without authorization shall be deemed to have committed an offence under *Section 101 and Section 102 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999*.

Where a false trade description or false representation is applied to a handloom product, such act shall constitute an offence punishable under Section 75 (Infringement) of the Trade Marks Act, 1999 and Section 17 (Power to Prohibit exports and internal marketing of textiles and textile machinery) of the Textiles Committee Act (41 of 1963) or any corresponding provision thereof.

- (a) In cases involving organized or repeated violations, the Textiles Committee may recommend prosecution in addition to cancellation of registration and forfeiture of goods.
- (b) Any attempt to obstruct or impede authorized inspections, or failure to maintain required records, shall attract penal consequences under both the Textiles Committee Act and applicable provisions of BNS.
- (c) Prosecutions under these provisions may be instituted by the Textiles Committee or any officer authorized by the Ministry of Textiles.

12. Revocation and Suspension

- a) Authorization may be revoked in case of breach of regulations, false representation, or misuse of the Mark.
- b) Suspension may be imposed pending inquiry.
- c) Revocation shall be by written order following due process.

13. Appeal

- a) Any person aggrieved by any order of rejection, suspension, or cancellation may appeal to the designated Appellate Authority within 30 days.

14. Power to Relax and Clarify

- a) The Committee, with the prior approval of the Ministry of Textiles, may issue guidelines, relaxations, or clarifications to ensure effective and fair implementation.
- b) The Regulations may be altered in the manner prescribed by the *Trade Marks Act, 1999* and the rules framed there under.
- c) All communications relating to this application may be sent to the following address in India:

Secretary,
Textiles Committee,
(Govt. of India: Ministry of Textiles)
P. Balu Road, Prabhadevi,
Mumbai-400 025.

OR

Development Commissioner (Handlooms)
Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi - 110011

SCHEDULE I – FORMAT AND SPECIFICATIONS OF HANDLOOM MARK LABEL

- a. The Label shall be printed on taffeta or other approved material.
 - (2) Each Label shall contain a unique number, logo, and security features.
 - (3) Specifications, design, dimensions, and affixation methods shall be notified by the Committee.

JOB DETAIL (FRONT)		2 COLOUR (FRONT)	REMARKS
Artwork Name : TEXTILE (HANDLOOM MARK) ARTWORK (REVISED)		Printing Colour: 1 <input type="checkbox"/> PANTONE 901G	* NUMBERING & QR DETAIL PROVIDE BY CLINT
Artwork No. : 5355	Shape: SHARP CORNER	Printing Colour: 2 <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK	
Revision Date : 00	Strip :	Printing Colour: 3	
Create Date : 03/09/2025	Paper Type: Polyester Taffeta	Printing Colour: 4	
Block Size : 1 inch x 2 inch	Security Type:	Printing Colour: 5	
		Printing Colour: 6	

LABEL ARTWORK

Actual Size

Enlargement View With Dimensions

SCHEDULE II – PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL

Objectives of the Scheme:

- (1) Promote handloom products in domestic and international markets
- (2) Provide assurance to the consumers about the genuineness of the Handloom Product origin.
- (3) Improve domestic and international marketing linkages to the handloom weavers.
- (4) Strengthen supply chain for Handloom products.
- (5) Improve price realization of the Handloom products in domestic and international market.
- (6) Improve the earnings of the handloom weaver community.
- (7) Facilitate uninterrupted workflow throughout the year to the handloom weavers.
- (8) Develop database on the handloom suppliers and weavers that will help in supporting the weavers of the existing scheme being implemented by the Government of India and the future plans.

Benefits of the Scheme:

- (1) The Scheme provides a collective identity to the handloom products thereby facilitating brand building and sales promotion.
- (2) It enables the customers to instantly identify a genuine handloom product and thus get value for money that helps increase in sales.
- (3) It facilitates in employment generation by promoting and boosting the handloom products thereby reflecting the pro-poor approach of the Government policies.
- (4) The Handloom Mark is a hallmark of powerful creative work that defines the product with clarity, distinguishing it from competition and connecting it with customers.

Working procedure:

Any Person or entity engaged in the production of handloom fabric or products referred in the scope of the regulation above, may apply in the prescribed form to the Textiles Committee for registration and authorization for use of the Certification mark, also referred to as the Handloom Mark Label in the Scheme. Since the main objective of the scheme is to promote handloom products in domestic and international markets, and provide an assurance to the consumers about the genuineness of the product origin and as to the authenticity of the handloom product, the scheme will be implemented in such a manner as to encourage the use of the certification mark by all handloom weavers, without any discrimination, provided the requirements set down in the regulations are satisfied.

- a) The registration fee for the Weaver (MW), Societies and other category is Rs.50/- (Rupees Fifty only) plus applicable tax.
- b) The applicants may pay applicable registration fee at the time of submission of application

Application Form:

- a) The application for registration as users of certification Trade Mark shall be filed in the form prescribed in the Handloom Mark (Origin Marking) Scheme/Regulations. An online provision for the submission of the application is available
- b) The online application number will be generated by the systems and the used for tracking the status of the application. .

Scrutiny:

- a) The scrutiny of application shall be carried out by the concerned Regional Office of Textiles Committee (ROTC).
- b) The defects in the application shall be notified to the applicant asking the applicant to rectify the same within one month or within such further extended period as may be provided by the Regional Officer.
- c) The Regional Office may on expiry of notice period or further extended period, abandon the application if applicant fails to rectify the defects. The applicant shall be at liberty to file fresh application, if so desired.

Refusal and Appeal :

- a) The ROTC may, after scrutiny of on site verification report and after offering reasonable opportunity of being heard, to the proposed user reject the application and communicate the rejection.
- b) The proposed user, if aggrieved, by order of rejection of application file an appeal before the appealing authority prescribed in the scheme within 30 days of receipt of rejection order.

On-Site Verification:

- a) The on-site verification person will be appointed by the concerned Regional Office of Textile Committee. Such onsite verification of the applicant will include physical presence of handloom/s, on-going production activities, random checking of purchase orders for the hand woven fabrics, production centers, production, sales, distribution records etc., which are variable according to category of the applicant.
- b) In the case of Apex Handloom Societies (AHS) & Handloom Corporations, under the control of the State Governments, the verification will be limited to the procurement records to the extent of minimum 10% at their office during on site verification. For all other categories, except individual weaver, 10% of the suppliers/members selected at random subject to a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 suppliers/members shall be verified. Production capacity may be finalized by the ROTC in consultation with person appointed for on-site verification for the installed handlooms based on work practices and professional judgment. The production so estimated shall be verified with production records.

Registration:

- a. On completion of on-site verification, the scrutiny of on-site verification report shall be carried out by RO and registration or confirmation letter, as applicable, shall be issued to the applicant by the concerned RO.
- b. After registration, if the user has not purchased the Handloom mark labels for more than 5 consecutive years, appropriate verification measures including physical verification shall be carried out to ensure their existence as authorized users under the scheme.
- c. ROTC will enter into an agreement with the proposed user (hereinafter referred to as the Authorized user) setting forth the terms and conditions governing the use of the certification mark by the Authorized user in relation to the specified handloom products. All registered user shall enter into agreement. The format of the agreement will be provided by ROTC. The Handloom mark labels, which will be used on the goods, will be supplied by the ROTC on payment of a prescribed fee or as may be decided from time to time.
- d. In order to monitor the proper use of the Handloom Mark, the Textiles Committee has reserved their right of inspection of the user's premises for on-site verification of production activities, books of accounts, registers, records or other documents and do periodic surveillance audits. On completion of on-site verification, the scrutiny of on-site verification report shall be carried out at ROTC level and registration or rejection or confirmation letter, as applicable, shall be issued to the applicant by the concerned ROTC. As a department of the Central Government, the DC (HL) and the Textiles Committee (which is a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles), affirm that they have the necessary infrastructure and wherewithal, including technical manpower support, to administer the certification scheme to the public advantage.
- e. It is a condition of use of the certification mark that the authorized user will use the mark only in relation to their handloom products provided that the originality of the said products is established under the Scheme, and certified by the implementing agency under these regulations. It is made mandatory on the part of the user to attach a self-certificate in the prescribed format, giving a guarantee that the products traded under the Scheme are wholly manufactured on Handloom. However, it will not be necessary to provide a self certification during every label purchase.
- f. It is a condition of authorization that the user shall not use any other mark resembling the Handloom Mark in question which has the effect of causing confusion to the user/consumer or unauthorized use or permit the use of the Handloom Mark by third parties. The concerned ROTC shall ensure that the agreement with authorized user is executed before the first label purchase by the said user. The label entitlement for subsequent years may be assessed based on the previous year's label consumption. In case of requirement of more labels to the registered user, re-verification of production capacity shall be carried out by ROTC by following guidelines/circular/direction issued from time to time. In case any authorized user has not purchased the handloom mark labels for more than 5 consecutive years, appropriate verification measures including physical verification shall be carried out to ensure their existence as authorized user under the scheme.

Minutes of the Meeting on “Effectiveness Plan of Textiles Committee” held under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Textiles at 03:30 PM on 8th July 2025 in Room No. 162, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.

A meeting to discuss the Effectiveness Plan of Textiles Committee (TC) was held under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Textiles on 8th July 2025 at 3.30 pm in Room No.162 Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.

2. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.
3. The meeting began with the discussion on the various work carried out by Textiles Committee, its role, key initiatives proposed. The Chairperson acknowledged these efforts and stressed the need for review the committee's composition accordingly.
4. Action points emerged during the meeting are –
 - (i) TC to establish a mechanism for developing lab infrastructure at various ports, ICD (Mundra Port, Hazira Port), textile clusters and all PM-MITRA parks after conducting feasibility study.
 - (ii) To develop and standardize the work related to QCO and Standardization Section (MoT) need to define the role of TC.
 - (iii) To develop regulating framework as best endeavor type, relevant guidelines and SOP to monitor the effectiveness of various Textiles Marks i.e. Handloom Mark, Silk Mark, Jute Mark, Kaleen Mark etc. TC to conduct rigorous outreach programmes to promote all Textile Marks. TC has to develop a system in place covering compilation of data for process of issuance, value of each Mark, frame rules and enforcement/remedial & penalty measures as per Sec. 17 of Textiles Committee Act for misuse of rules/provisions and act as a technical regulator.
 - (iv) E-publication to be issued covering all Textile Marks for all levels (National/International) and to conduct export promotion studies and explore possibilities to cover the expenditure under Export Promotion Study Funds (EPSF).
 - (v) TC need to open a forum on their website in which the industry can share their technical problems and the TC to guide them in solving such problems.
 - (vi) To recommend for convention/Hackathon with MSME sectors on challenges faced by the industry.
 - (vii) Scheme on Quality & Compliance need to be presented by TC.

- (viii) TC to work on the cadre review and recruitment regulations of TC. Also action to be initiated to upgrade the post of Secretary(TC) to the level of Joint Secretary. A concept note regarding cadre restructuring to be submitted by TC in this regard to MoT.
 - (ix) MoT to review the Annual Action Plan of TC.
 - (x) TC to discuss with JS (Fibre) for cotton productivity testing.
 - (xi) Secretary(Textiles) recommended to TA to leverage TC in exports and push for MRA with different agencies.
 - (xii) Secretary(Textiles) suggested a comprehensive scheme for capacity building in quality.
 - (xiii) Discussion was also held for continuing the grant-in-aid for TC and to take follow up on the Income Tax issues of Textiles Committee for which Secretary(T) has already written letter to Dept. of Revenue, Gol.
5. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

List of participants

1. Secretary(Textiles), MoT
2. Trade Advisor, MoT
3. Secretary (TC)
4. Director, MoT
5. Deputy Director, (STC&GI)
6. US, MoT