

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR

DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES, COMMERCE & INDUSTRIES

THE MANIPUR USE AND PROCUREMENT OF LOCAL HANDLOOM & HANDICRAFTS PRODUCTS POLICY, 2016

DIRECTORTE OF HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES

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1.0: Introduction and Background:

- 1.1 Conventional method of production of handloom cloth is simple both in terms of machinery and weaving operation. Cloth is produced by interlacing two threads, namely, warp (vertical) and weft (horizontal) threads. No electricity is required to produce handloom and handicrafts products. Handloom and handicrafts products are widely appreciated for their attractive features, like, durability, wear resistance, environment friendliness and economic prices.
- 1.2 Every Government establishment or institution spends a sizeable amount of its budget for purchasing various types of goods to discharge its duties and responsibilities. Cloth is one of the essential requirements in Government establishments and institutions. In a similar manner, handicrafts products are also used in various forms. In order to support handloom weavers and handicrafts artisans of Manipur directly, a Policy for use of handloom and handicrafts products in all Government establishments and institutions of the State is essential.
- 1.3 As per National Handloom Census Report published in 2010, Manipur has 2.04 lakh handloom workers and 1.90 lakh looms. Manipur has the highest concentration of both looms and weavers in the country. Manipur is the 3rd highest loom population and 6th in weavers' population among the States in the country. In similar manner, there are 2 lakh handicrafts artisans in Manipur. Thus, Manipur has both traditional and natural potential for handloom and handicrafts.
- 1.4 With this uniqueness and potential, the State Government has taken up many promotional, developmental and welfare programmes for handloom weavers and handicrafts artisans of Manipur. The main objective of these programmes is to provide and generate employment to local weavers and artisans throughout the year. In order to enhance employment generation, the local market for and use of local handloom and handicrafts products need to be broadened by promoting mass utilization.

2.0: Vision and Objective:

- **2.1 Vision:** The Policy envisions transformation of Manipur into a vibrant State for handloom and handicrafts entrepreneurs.
- **2.2 Objective:** The main objective of the policy is to widen the market for local handloom and handicrafts products and to develop handloom & handicrafts activities into an organized sector for investment and employment generation and also to groom to start-ups units in the sector to strengthen the economy of Manipur.

3.0: Definition:

a) 'buyer' means any Government or private establishment which purchases or intends to purchase local products under this policy.

- b) 'establishment' means any department, office, autonomous body, corporation, board, hospital, hotel or educational/training institute of the State/Central Government or a private company, firm or individual as the case may be.
- c) 'identified agency(ies)' means the agency(ies) which have been identified under Clause 6.1 of the policy to be supplier(s) of local products under the policy.
- d) 'local products' means a handloom or handicrafts product which is made or manufactured in Manipur.
- e) 'policy' means the Manipur Use and Procurement of Local Handloom & Handicrafts Products Policy, 2016.

4.0: Identification of Products for Procurement by Establishments:

4.1 There are several handloom and handicrafts products, which are suitable and can be used by establishments. While it may not be possible to identify exhaustively all products which, are suitable or can be used by various establishments, certain products have been identified as below:

(1)	For use in offices	Handloom products:
		Curtains, Cushion Covers, Towels, Foot Mats
		Handicrafts products:
		Furniture, Tray, Window blinds, Decorative Pieces
		& Kouna Products.
(2)	For use in	Handloom products:
	Hospitals/Clinics and	Curtain, Bed Sheets/Covers, Pillow Covers, Cushion
	Hotels	Covers, Table Cloth, Foot Mats
		Handicrafts products:
		Furniture, Tray, Window blinds, Decorative Pieces
		& Kouna Products.
(3)	For use in Educational	Handloom products:
	Institutions	School Uniforms, Curtain, Table Cloth, Cushion
		Covers, Towels, Foot Mats
		Handicrafts products:
		Furniture, Tray, Window blinds, Decorative Pieces
		& Kouna Products.

5.0: Procurement of Handloom & Handicrafts Products by Establishments:

5.1 Procurement by State Government Establishment: All State Government establishments and institutions including State Government Departments, Autonomous Bodies, Corporations, Commissions, Boards, Hospitals, Hotels and Educational Institutions shall procure and use only local handloom & handicrafts products as identified in Clause 4.1 where such products can be used and meet the requirements/standards/specifications of the establishments/institutions to a minimum of 50% of their requirement in a year.

Provided that where school uniforms are not procured in bulk by the institutions concerned, but are purchased by the individual students, they may be purchased from individual producers/sellers.

5.2 Procurement by Central Government/Private Establishments: All Central Government and private establishments in the State shall use and procure local handloom and handicrafts products as identified in Clause 4.1 to the extent possible where such products meet their requirement/standards/specifications.

6.0: Agencies for Supply of Local Handloom/Handicrafts Products and Supply Chain:

- 6.1 For ensuring availability of the local products and stability of their prices, it is necessary to identify agencies, which will be responsible for supply of the products at competitive prices. It is also essential to put in place a proper supply chain so that the products of the weavers and artisans reach the consumers in an uninterrupted flow. The following organizations are identified as the agencies responsible for supply of the local products:
 - 1) Manipur Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd.
 - 2) Manipur Apex Handloom Weavers & Handicrafts Artisans Cooperative Society Ltd.
 - 3) Manipur State Cooperative Union.
 - 4) Manipur Sericulture Cooperative Federation Ltd

Provided that State Government establishments may procure local products from handloom/handicrafts outlets of private sector of Manipur as per their convenience.

- 6.2 The following arrangements will be made for creating a functional supply chain for procurement of local products under this policy:
 - 1) All the Handloom and Handicrafts Clusters will supply their products to the Manipur Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. Individual weaver, entrepreneurs and units may also supply to the Agency.
 - 2) All the Primary Handloom and Handicrafts Weavers Cooperative Societies shall supply their products to the Manipur Apex Handloom Weavers & Handicrafts Artisans Cooperative Society Ltd and Manipur State Cooperative Union.
 - 3) All the Sericulture Cooperative Societies shall supply to the Manipur Sericulture Cooperative Federation Ltd.

7.0 Procurement/Purchase Procedure:

- 7.1 It is necessary to facilitate the procurement/purchase procedure for local handloom/handicrafts products in order to achieve the objectives of the policy. For this, the procedure prescribed in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, 1995 and instructions issued by Finance Department regarding tender procedures will need to be relaxed.
- 7.2 Procurement/purchase of local products from the agencies identified in Clause 6.1 by State Government shall be exempted from the normal tender procedure prescribed by Finance Department. State Government establishments shall be allowed to purchase direct from the identified agencies at the rates fixed by the identified agencies. However, procurement/purchase of local products from local handloom/handicrafts outlets of private sector shall be governed by the tender procedures prescribed by Finance Department.

8.0 Rates of Local Handloom/Handicrafts Products:

8.1 The identified agencies shall ensure that the rates at which they supply local handloom/handicrafts products are at competitive rates. They will ensure that they procure the products from the producers at prevailing rates and add only reasonable amounts as their commission/handling charges.

9.0 Specifications of Local Products:

- 9.1 It is essential that the local handloom/handicrafts products meet the specifications of the buyers, especially Government establishments, wherever there are prescribed specifications for the purposes they are intended to be used.
- 9.2 The identified agencies shall ensure that only local handloom/handicrafts products, which meet the specifications of the buyers, are supplied.
- 9.3 Where local handloom/handicrafts products which meet the specifications of a buyer, such as dimensions, quality, etc. are not readily available or are not normally produced by the local producers, the buyer shall furnish the specifications to the identified agencies, and the identified agencies shall take steps for the production of local handloom/handicrafts products which meet those specifications. The buyer will be expected to provide only those specifications for meeting the basic requirements and mandatory/statutory requirements and refrain from "over-specifications".
- 9.4 In the case of local products, which have GI registration, the identified agencies shall ensure that all specifications for the local products under the GI registrations are compiled with.
- 9.5 All dimensions incorporated in the specifications shall be indicated in metric units including count of yarn. If due to some unavoidable reasons, dimensions in FPS units are to be mentioned, the corresponding equivalent in the metric system must also be indicated. The Specifications and the technical details should be expressed with clarity and without any ambiguity or double meaning. Wherever necessary, the written specifications should be supplemented with drawings for additional clarity.

10.0 Incentive/Subsidy:

- 10.1 All the schemes presently operational and to be introduced by the Central and State Governments shall be applicable to both buyers and producers including Rebate, Marketing Incentive, Minimum Price Support Schemes wherever the scheme is applicable as per the guidelines of the scheme and at the rates specified in the scheme.
- 11.0 Nodal Agency: Directorate of Handlooms & Textiles of the Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry shall be the Nodal Agency (NA) for implementation and monitoring of the policy.

12.0 Monitoring Committee:

- 12.1 A Monitoring Committee to review implementation of the policy shall be constituted with the Director in charge of Handlooms & Textiles as the Chairman with one member from each IA and all Project Manager (Handloom) and Deputy Director (Handloom/Handicrafts) as members. The Additional Director/Joint Director(Handloom/Handicrafts)/Deputy Director (Handloom will be the Convener of the Committee. The Committee shall review implementation of the Policy on quarterly basis.
- 12.2 All establishment/institutions, both Government and private, shall furnish whatever information is sought from them by the Monitoring Committee for assessment of the implementation of the policy.
- 13.0 **State Level Committee:** There will be a State Level Committee with Administrative Secretary in charge of Handlooms & Handicrafts/Textiles as Chairman with representatives from Finance, Planning and Cooperative Department as members to review the implementation of the policy. The Director in charge of Handlooms & Handicrafts/Textiles will be the Member Secretary of the Committee.

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