



## RECOGNISE ME AS AN ARTISAN, PROVIDE ME IDENTITY (ARTISAN) CARD

I am a home-based worker in the craft sector.

Being an artisan does not give me any kind of professional identity. I am denied of my rights as a worker and of social security. Even when I am aware of the fact that I am depriving my children of their childhood and causing harm to their future by engaging them in work, due to the immense pressure on us to produce the maximum number of pieces, I am compelled to do so for survival. And despite the relentless struggle, I am finding it hard to meet the household expenses.

THE PROMISE made by the Central Government to provide ARTISAN CARDS in 2005 had brought much solace to thousands of families like mine as it offered us a sense of identity as an ARTISAN and promised access to a slew of state benefits. It has been nine years! I have not yet received the Artisan card.

By getting registered as an artisan, I can get access to benefits including scholarship for children, bank loan up to Rupees 2 lakh, insurance coverage for accidental death and group insurance

(covering my family). I can also easily avail benefits of other schemes provided by the Ministry of Handicrafts and set up stalls free of charge in any artisan fair in the country.

So I request the Ministry of Textiles to speed up our registration and provide artisan photo identity cards which will give us a professional status and facilitate access to state benefits. I also request to grant us access to health care facilities under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana scheme. Provided with these benefits, I will be able to lead a better life and ensure a secure future for my children.

POST CARD



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