

(b) the amount of ex-gratia payment being made at present to the legal heir in such cases;

(c) whether State Governments, particularly Maharashtra, has demanded enhancement of ex-gratia payment in such cases; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon by Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Deaths reported during the year 1986-87: 447, 1987-88:397

(b) According to Government of India instructions Rs. 10,000/- as ex-gratia payment is being made at present to the legal heirs of the deceased.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under active consideration of Government of India.

Strike in Jute Mills

284. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the one day token strike on June, 26, 1989 by more than 160,000 workers in 37 Jute Mills in West Bengal in response to a call given by the Central Trade unions demanding Union Government's intervention for reopening the closed jute mills and payment of statutory arrears against provident Fund, Gratuity etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Govern-

ment's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). It is a fact that workers in operating jute mills in West Bengal observed a one-day token strike on June 26, 1989 in response to call given by Central trade unions demanding reopening of closed jute mills and payment of statutory arrears etc.

Matters relating to Industrial disputes fall within the jurisdiction of the State Government. It is understood that several rounds of talks have been held by them in this regard.

With a view to improve the performance of the jute sector the Central Government have initiated a number of policy measures like the Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme, the Special Jute Development Fund Scheme, Scheme for internal & external market assistance etc. Steps have also been taken to ensure availability of raw jute to mills.

Afforestation Programme during 1989-90 in Orissa

285. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to bring additional land under afforestation during the financial year 1989-90;

(b) if so, the total hectares of land in Orissa proposed to be brought under afforestation during 1989-90; and

(c) the amount earmarked therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir.