

Closure of Textile Mills

*76. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of closed cotton textile mills in the country:

(b) the number of textile workers affected thereby;

(c) the steps taken by Government rehabilitate these unemployed workers; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to stop the future process of closure of textile mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). As on 31.12.87, a total of 133 textile mills with 1.71 lakh workers on their rolls were lying closed.

(c) Government have set up a Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund to financially assist the workers of those mills which close down permanently on or after 6th June, 1985.

(d) Government have constituted a Nodal Agency to examine weak textile mills in order to ascertain whether they are potentially viable or not. The Nodal Agency evolves and manages rehabilitation packages in respect of mills found by it to be potentially viable. For sick industrial companies, a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has been established. Mills found to be non-viable may have to close down permanently.

Hike in Yarn Price

*77. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handloom and powerloom industry in the country has been severely affected due to steep hike in prices of yarn;

(b) whether Union Government have provided any relief to the handloom and powerloom industry; and

(c) the details thereof and what other steps Government propose to take to save the powerloom and handloom industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The handloom and powerloom industries have been affected due to increase in prices of yarn during the past year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(i) In order to safeguard the interests of the decentralised sector, Government have taken certain corrective measures to check the recent hike in the prices of yarn which is basically due to the rise in prices of raw cotton. The export of staple cotton has been suspended. It has also been decided to permit import of cotton against export of cotton yarn/cotton fabrics and made-ups on Advance License basis. Export of hank yarn upto 60s counts has been stopped.

(ii) In order to provide relief to the handloom industry, the following schemes are in operations: The Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme, Loan Assistance to the National Co-operative Development Corporation for setting up of new Weavers Co-operative Spinning Mills and expansion of existing units, and yarn supply operations of the National Handloom Development Corporation. State Governments have also been advised to set up Yarn Price