

from the Central budget for the up-keep and maintenance of Primary Health Centres in the States.

Closure of Jute Mills in West Bengal

*230. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jute mills locked out/closed in West Bengal as on 1 July, 1989 and the number of workers involved;

(b) the steps taken by Union Government thereon; and

(c) the number of jute mills which have so far applied for and taken assistance under the Jute Package Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) As on 1st July, 1989, in West Bengal 19 jute mills were under lock out/closure affecting around 64,000 workers.

(b) Closure/lock out of jute mill units are matter of industrial disputes and concerned State Govt. is the appropriate authority to deal with such matters. However, on its part Central Govt. have recently taken various steps to improve overall functioning of jute industry which include:-

- (i) Regular purchase of jute bags for packing foodgrains through DGS&D at cost plus prices;
- (ii) Enforcement of mandatory use of jute packaging by certain specified industries;
- (iii) Introduction of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme and Special Jute Development Fund;
- (iv) Implementation of Internal

Market Assistance Scheme and External Market Assistance Scheme;

- (v) Adoption of new STC/JMDC loss-sharing strategy for a capturing global tenders;
- (vi) STC/Jute Industry consortium arrangement on 50:50 loss sharing basis for export of CBC to North America and grant of liberal rate of CCS on almost all exportable items of jute goods from 1.4.89 for a period of 3 years upto 31.3.1992 admissible to both manufacturer and merchant exporters;
- (vii) Maximum raw jute stock control order for regulating prices and permission for duty-free import of raw jute against export of jute goods under Advance Licensing Scheme.

(c) Till 30.6.89 under Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme, Industrial Finance Corporation of India has received 36 applications. At the end of June, 1989 a sum of Rs. 54.89 crores was sanctioned to 14 jute mills under the Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme. Besides this, an amount of Rs. 2.40 crores was sanctioned under the Jute Special Development Fund, together aggregating to Rs. 57.29 crores.

Acting C.M.Ds. in NTC Subsidiaries

*232. SHRIV. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of subsidiaries of the NTC which are working under acting Chief Managing Directors and since when;

(b) the reasons for delay in reconstitu-