LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.289 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2018

REVIVAL OF CLOSED JUTE MILLS

289. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether number of jute mills in various States including Chhattisgarh have been closed or are on the verge of closure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/location-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the revival of these closed mills?

उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय टम्टा) MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

- **(a) & (b):** As on date, 75 composite jute mills are functioning in various States of the country, including Chhattisgarh. Closing and reopening of jute mills is a cyclical process which depends on various factors of production such as low productivity, trade unionism, raw material supply, fall in demand etc. The details of closed mills in various States are given in the **Annexure**.
- **(c):** Government has been taking a large number of measures for supporting the jute manufacturing units and for strengthening the jute sector. These include:-
 - (i) To ensure consistent demand for jute mills, under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) [JPM Act], 1987, Government specifies the commodities and the extent to which they are mandatorily required to be packed in Jute Packaging Materials. At present, a minimum of 90% of food grains and a minimum of 20% of sugar are to be compulsorily packed in jute sacking. On an average, the annual Government support to jute industry on the account amounts to Rs. 6500 crores.
 - (ii) Whenever the market price of raw jute falls below a certain level, the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) procures raw jute at Minimum Support Price (MSP), fixed on the basis of recommendation of the commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) from jute growers to safeguard their interest. Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 204 crores for four years starting 2014-15 to enable JCI to be in readiness for MSP operations. Further, a fund of Rs.100 crores has been approved for 2018-19 and 2019-20.

- (iii) Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM): Government of India has launched ISAPM for Jute Industry and Jute Diversified Products Manufacturing Units, with effect from 1stOctober 2013. The basic aim of this scheme is to facilitate modernization in existing and new jute mills and up- gradation of technology in existing jute mills and to provide assistance to a large number of entrepreneurs to manufacture value added biodegradable Jute Diversified Products (JDP) as well as for modernization and up-gradation of technology.
- (iv) Jute-ICARE (Jute: Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise): This pilot project launched in 2015 is aimed at addressing the difficulties faced by the jute cultivators by providing them certified seeds at subsidized rates, seed drills to facilitate line sowing, nail-weeders to carry out periodic weeding and by popularising several newly developed retting technologies under water limiting conditions. This has resulted in increased returns to jute farmers.
- (v) The National Jute Board implements various schemes for market development, workers welfare, promotion of diversification and exports.
- (vi) The Government issued a notification on 5th January, 2017 imposing Definitive Anti-Dumping Duty on jute goods originating from Bangladesh and Nepal. Based on the current level of imports, the Industry has estimated that this has created scope for upto 2 lakh MT of additional demand for jute goods to be met by the Indian Jute industry.

Annexure

Details of closed mills in various States.

S.No.	Closed Mills	State	S.No.	Closed Mills	State
1	Gouripur	WB	12	Chitavalsah	A.P.
2	Alexandra	WB	13	Eastcoast	A.P
3	National	WB	14	Aruna	A.P
4	Union	WB	15	Bobbili	A.P
5	Soorah	WB	16	Sri Bajrang	A.P
6	Khardah	W.B	17	Rameshwara	Bihar
7	Jai Jute	W.B	18	RBHM	Bihar
8	Kanoria	W.B	19	Kanpur	UP
9	Kinnision	W.B	20	J.K Jute	U.P
10	India	W.B	21	Mohan	Chhatisgarh
11	Gondalpara	W.B	22	Konarak	Odisha