

Closure of Maharana Mills Ltd.

233. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI
VIRUMBI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 28 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th April, 1993 and state:

(a) the date on which Maharana Mills Ltd., Porbandar was closed down;

(b) whether there is any proposal to take over any of these mills by NTC; if so, the details thereof in case of each mill which will be taken over by NTC;

(c) whether any attempt has been made to revive any of these sick mills under the provisions of the Sick Companies Act, 1985; if so, the details thereof in each such case; and

(d) whether any other steps have since been taken to rehabilitate the affected workers; if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Maharana Mills Ltd. has been closed since 13.2.1993.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government have set up a Nodal Agency/Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), to evolve and manage rehabilitation package in respect of sick and closed textile mills and has also created Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund to provide interim relief to the eligible workers rendered jobless as a result of permanent/partial closure of an eligible mill.

Technology Mission on Cotton

234. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of the Northern India Textile Mills Association (NITMA) has advocated a provident

integrated cotton management policy and launching of a technology mission on cotton as per the news item entitled "Need for cotton mission" which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 14th June, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard; and

(c) what is the response of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) As per the news item, proposed cotton mission should harness the best of production and management technologies and harmonise the interests of the farmers; consumers and textile industry with the economy as a whole. The feasibility of setting up a technology mission on cotton was examined in the Ministry of Agriculture and it has been felt that there was no scope for setting up the mission on cotton as cotton mainly a rainfed commodity not only covers a very wide and scattered area but additionally it also faces typical problems of ginning, packing, spinning weaving and marketing etc.

Streamlining of Financial Management of NTC Mills

235. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of National Textile Corporation mills have been declared sick because of poor financial management;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government have adopted to streamline the financial management of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) The reasons for sickness of NTC mills include, inter-alia, old and obsolete machinery, low productivity, low capacity utilisation,