

NTC's Plant to give fillip to its retail marketing

612. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Textile Corporation (NTC) plans to give a fillip to its retail marketing by developing new brands and reviving the existing ones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present position of NTC in the country especially the units in Andhra Pradesh districts like East and West Godavari;
- (d) how many NTC mills closed during the last four years in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NTC is planning to give a fillip to its retail marketing by developing new brands for various categories of consumers with modernization of its mills in progress.

(c) and (d) Out of the total 119 NTC mills, 2 mills have been transferred to the Government of Pudducherry. 67 unviable mills have been closed under Industrial Disputes (ID) Act after approval of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). As per BIFR approval, 10 mills were identified for closure where most of the employees have opted for Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) and there is no production activity in these mills; 22 mills are to be revived by NTC itself. 18 mills are to be modernized through JV partners. Out of these 119 mills, six NTC mills are situated in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Out of these, 4 unviable mills, *i.e.* Azamjahi Mills, Warrangal; Natraj Mills, Adilabad; Adoni Mills, Adoni and Netha Mills, Sikandrabad have been closed in the last 4 years under ID Act and one more mill, *i.e.* Ananthapur Cotton Mill, Tadapatri will be closed. One mill *i.e.* Tirupati Cotton Mill has been identified for modernization.

(e) Closure of these mills is done as per ID Act after BIFR approval as there is no production activity and most of the employees have opted for MVRS.

Low earnings of weaving households

613. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issue of low earnings of the weaving households and the domination of weavers contractors which have been severely affecting the small scale rural weaving industry are being looked into by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, whether any relief package is contemplated to improve the plight of poor weavers of the Telangana region of the Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes Sir.