

- (iii) Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute and mesta is fixed every year to encourage farmers to grow more jute.
- (iv) National Jute Board and Jute Corporation of India are working on projects with National Institute of Research on Jute and Allied Fibre Technology (NIRJAFT) and Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (CRIJAF) to develop better jute seeds and to improve agronomical practices for jute cultivation.
- (v) Jute Corporation of India distributes high-yielding certified seeds to farmers for increasing productivity.

Rejuvenation of the closed jute mills

507. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of closed jute mills in the country, State-wise details thereof; and
- (b) the action Government intends to take for rejuvenation of the closed mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The State-wise closed jute mills in the country as on 8.7.2014, are as under:

Name of the State	No. of closed mills
West Bengal	5
Andhra Pradesh	1
Uttar Pradesh	2
Odisha	1
Chhattisgarh	1

- (b) At present, there is no scheme to rejuvenate the closed private mills.

Winding up of Mumbai showroom of Central Cottage Industries Corp. of India Ltd.

508. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to wind up the Mumbai showroom of Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd., one of the highest profit earning units in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether many employees of the Mumbai branch have been transferred to other metropolitan cities; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken for promotion and marketing of handloom and handicraft products in the country, particularly in Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Presently, 10 employees of Mumbai Branch of CCIC are on transfer to other units as per work requirement.

(c) For promotion and marketing of handloom products in the country, the Government of India provides financial assistance to State Governments and their organizations to organize fairs, craft melas and exhibitions at district, State and National level. These events are organized in important cities of the country including Mumbai. This not only provide direct marketing platform to weavers, avoiding the middleman, but also help them understand the market trends and establish market linkages. Moreover, there are several schemes namely Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojna, Design and Technology Upgradation, Research and Development, Infrastructure and Technology Development and Marketing Support and Services Schemes (MSS) for promotion and marketing of Handicraft products in the country including Mumbai. Under one of the component of MSS scheme *i.e.* 'Domestic Marketing', financial assistance is provided to various Implementing Agencies for organization of Gandhi Shilp Bazar, Craft Bazars, Exhibitions, National Handicrafts Fair, buyer-seller meets and workshops.

Jute industry in West Bengal

509. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jute related PSUs declared as sick or under severe financial constraints in the State of West Bengal during the last ten years;

(b) the details of schemes to assist these sick PSUs and the outcome thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken to tackle the high cost of production faced by the jute industry along with the international competition during last five years and results of steps taken; and

(d) the steps taken to upgrade the old machinery and technology used by the jute industry in West Bengal during the last five years?