

sericulture States have incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 59.19 crores upto Dec. '92 on implementation of their components of NSP. Besides the flow of benefits from Research, Extension and Infrastructural support extended under the project, an area of 1,70,081 acres has been brought under mulberry cultivation upto December 1992. The total credit flow under the Project upto December, 1992 has been Rs. 78.04 crores.

(c) The Central Silk Board is presently implementing the following two schemes for plantation of mulberry:-

1. Supply of Mulberry cuttings to State Governments on subsidised rates. (50:50 basis)
2. Supply of Mulberry saplings to farmers on subsidised rates under kissan Nursery Programme. (50:50 basis)

Upgradation of Hospitals

*1011. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the Government of Karnataka to upgrade and improve the Secondary level hospitals in the State with the assistance of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above proposal has been approved by the Union Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore and the present position of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). A proposal for upgradation of

Secondary Level Hospitals in Karnataka with external assistance has been under process in the Government of India and, after obtaining necessary mandatory clearances, has been posed to the German authorities for consideration of providing external assistance for the same. The responses of the German authorities are not yet known. Details regarding size of the project, quantum and timings of assistance will only be known after the project is finalised.

New Package for Handloom Weavers

*1012. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently announced a new deal package for handloom weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocations likely to be made for the current year and the Eighth Plan period;

(d) the number of handloom weavers likely to be covered under the scheme during the above period, State-wise; and

(e) the monitoring arrangement made to ensure that the weakest handloom weavers in rural and semi-urban areas are benefited under the scheme?

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

(b) Government have recently announced a Health Package Scheme to provide medical assistance for weaving related diseases and health problems of handloom weavers and a Scheme for providing relief to the handloom weavers who have lost their income generating assets like looms, workshops and raw materials during the recent communal riots. In consultation with and with the concurrence of the Rural Development, new schemes for provision of