

expected that the new liberalised regime and the international quality of the Indian technical personnel will attract these companies to set up operations in India. The Electronic Hardware Technology Park Scheme are intended to provide an environment conducive for international operations. The Electronic Hardware Technology Park Scheme and the Software Technology Bank Scheme Links access to the domestic market with the extent of the net foreign exchange earned by a company. This scheme also gives enough flexibility of operation to the companies to enable them to respond promptly to changes in market trends and demands.

Osure of NTC Mills

2197. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO :
SHRISOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation run Textile Mills are facing the threat of closure;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to remove the tehreat of their closure;

(c) whether Azamjahi Mills at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh is ine such unit; and

(d) the steps taken by the Govern-ment to stop its clusure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES ((SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d). Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC involving modernisation, restructuring and rationalisation of surplus workforce through the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Voluntary Retirement Scheme will also be

offered to officers, staff and workers of such chronically sick mills, to be closed down or maerged 3with adjacent units to ensure viability. The quesstion of closure or reten-tion of individual mills of NTC including Azamjahi Mills will depend on the impact on viability of labour rationalisation now being done through Voluuntary Retirement Scheme and other Relevant factors. Re-garding Azamjahi Mills, an offer has already been made to the workers to run its on a cooperative basis and concrete proposals are awaited.

Allocation of Funds for Integrated Rural Energy Programme

2198. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount earmarked for the Integrated Rural Energy Programme during the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether the Government have made additional allocation for implementing the above programme (I.R.E.P.) in the Eighth Plan;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) the target set for electrification in the rural areas under the above programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c). A provi-sion of Rs. 250 crores has been indicated for the centrally sponsored scheme for the I.R.E.P. programe in the Eighth Plan documen to be utilised mainly for develop-ing capabilities for planning and implemen-tation for the Integrated Rural Energy Programme in the States/ UTs. This would include setting up IREP cells at the State