

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:49
ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010
REVIVAL OF CLOSED JUTE MILLS
Banerjee Shri Ambica

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that several jute mills including the Central Jute Mills, Sankrail, Howrah have been lying closed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their closure;
- (c) whether a large number of workers are rendered jobless due to this closure; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to revive the closed jute mills including the Central Jute Mills, Sankrail, Howrah?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.49 FOR 11-11-2010

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As on date, production has stopped in 16 jute mills out of a total of 79 jute mills in the country including the National Jute Mill, Sankrail, Howrah which belongs to National Jute Manufacturers Corporation (NJMC), a Central Public Sector Undertaking. The main reasons for closure (i.e. stoppage of production) include financial ill health and labour related issues.

(c): Yes, Madam. However, stoppage and restart of production in the jute mills is a continuous process.

(d): Since most of the mills including those where production has stopped are in the private sector, it is left primarily to the initiatives of the respective private sector to restart the same. The Central Government through NJMC owns six jute mills. In all these six jute mills production has stopped for the last 7-10 years. Based on the recommendations of the High Powered Committee and duly supported by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE), the Union Cabinet has decided to revive three mills. Steps have already been initiated accordingly. In the said six mills of NJMC, all the workers and the clerical staff numbering approximately 17,000 have opted for and been given VRS. At present there is no plan to revive National Jute Mill, Sankrail, Howrah of the NJMC.