

(a) whether the Navy has any plans to extended the runway as well as to provide night landing facilities at Visakhapatnam airport to enable the Airbus to become operational to meet the passenger-traffic demand; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There are plans to re-orient/extend the secondary runway at the Visakhapatnam Airport, subject to the availability of land for the purpose from the Visakhapatnam Port Trust. In the meantime, action has been initiated to provide night landing facilities on the existing runway.

#### Procurement of Raw Jute by JCI

313. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:  
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:  
SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES to be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are

aware that jute growers have been compelled to sell their production below the minimum support price this year due to non-intervention by the Jute Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-intervention by the JCI;

(c) the quantum of raw jute purchased by the JCI in the current jute season till date against the total production State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to stem the prices of raw jute at reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Jute growers have not been compelled to sell their produce below minimum support prices due to timely market intervention of JCI whenever prices of raw jute touched minimum support levels as per report.

(c) and (d). Government have taken necessary steps to ensure that price operations by JCI are not hampered due to paucity of funds and are keeping a day to day vigil over raw jute price scenario. State-wise pronouncement of raw jute and mesta upto 14th November 1991 against their estimated production are given below.

(in bales)

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Pronouncement by JCI</i>	<i>Estimated production</i>
West Bengal	172657	55,00,000
Bihar	69227	10,50,000
Assam	42290	10,50,000,
Meghalaya	472	65,000
Orissa	2222	4,00,000
Andhra Pradesh	1444	6,00,000
Tripura	833	85,000
Uttar Pradesh	22	1,00,000
Other States	—	1,50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>289167</b>	<b>90,00,000</b>