

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4350

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011

JUTE CLOTHING

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Dome Dr. Ram Chandra;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Gohain Shri Rajen;Pakirappa Shri S.;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman;Tandon Annu

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is encouraging the use of jute as a clothing fabric and as an environment friendly packaging material used by various industries;
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard for complete ban of plastic to promote jute industry;
- (c) the measures/reintroduction of External Market Assistance Scheme to increase the export of jute/hand-crafted/handicrafts goods due to stiff competition from the neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and China;
- (d) the details of jute mills closed/gone sick in the country and steps taken/being taken by the Government for revival of these mills;
- (e) the details of financial assistance provided to the workers who lost their job under Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS);
- (f) the details of the scheme being implemented under Jute Technology Mission (JTM) and benefits extended therein; and
- (g) the number of workers engaged in jute industry and details of various welfare schemes extended to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SMT. PANABAAGA LAKSHMI)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Imposing ban on plastic is a State-subject.

(c): The EMA Scheme has been discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2007. However, to increase the export of jute various measures like participation in domestic and international exhibitions, market survey, trade events and delegations are being organized through the National Jute Board.

(d): The details of jute mills closed/gone sick in the country are at Annexure-I. The Government and BIFR have approved revival package for 3 mills (RBHM in Bihar, Kinnison and Khardah in West Bengal) at a cost of Rs.1562.98 crore, out of 6 mills of National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Ltd. (NJMC).

(e): Financial assistance under TWRFS is provided as interim relief to the workers rendered jobless as a consequence of permanent closure/liquidation of the textiles unit in the private sector and not applicable to the State/Central Government PSUs and the Textile units in the Co-operative sector of the State/Central Government. The details of financial assistance provided under the TWRFS are at Annexure-II.

(f): The Jute Technology Mission (JTM) comprises 4 Mini-Missions namely MM-I, MM-II, MM-III and MM-IV. While MM-I relates to agricultural research and technology, MM-II relates to development/extension in the cultivation of raw jute and transfer of improved technology. MM-III relates to develop efficient market linkages for raw jute and MM-IV relates to modernization and technology upgradation to improve productivity of jute goods.

(g): 2, 01,247 workers are presently engaged in jute industry in the country. Different Workers' Welfare Schemes to provide sanitation, health facilities and working conditions in the mills; incentives under Social Audit & Rajiv Gandhi Shilpi Swasthya Bima Yojana, etc. are under implementation.