

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2202

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013

PRODUCTION AND REVIVAL OF JUTE MILLS

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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various schemes introduced by the Government to increase the production of jute in the country, Statewise;
- (b) the details of jute production, Statewise during the last three years along with the mechanism to ensure that jute farmers get the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of their produce;
- (c) whether the jute industries/farmers are facing problems due to decrease in the use of jute bags by the industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to address the issue of jute producers;
- (e) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to reopen the closed jute mills across the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken to set up jute industries in the country?

Answer

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

(a): Government of India is implementing various schemes to increase the production of jute in the country. Some of the important schemes are as under:-

i) Government of India has launched the Jute Technology Mission (JTM) as a major initiative for overall development of the jute industry and growth of the jute sector with a total outlay of Rs.355.55 crores. Under the JTM, several schemes are operational under the Mini Mission I, II, III & IV for the overall growth of jute sector. Mini Mission-I aims towards strengthening agriculture research and development in jute sector for improving the yield and quality. Mini Mission-II is targeted towards transfer of improved technology and agronomic practices in production and post harvesting phase. Under Mini-Mission-III, market linkage of raw jute is provided in all jute growing states. Mini Mission-IV provides for modernization of jute industry, upgradation of skills, market promotion and exports which helps to increase demand of raw jute.

ii) Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute and mesta is fixed every year to encourage farmers to grow more jute.

iii) In order to encourage jute production, Government provides for compulsory packaging of certain percentage of foodgrains & Sugar in jute under Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory use in packaging commodities), 1987.

iv) National Jute Board and Jute Corporation of India are working on projects with National Institute of Research on Jute & Allied Fibre Technology (NIRJAFT) and Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (CRIJAF) to develop better jute seeds and to improve agronomical practices for jute cultivation.

v) Jute Corporation of India and National Jute Board work together to distribute high- yielding certified seeds to farmers at subsidized rates for increasing productivity.

There are no state specific schemes.

(b): State-wise production of jute in the country during the last three years are given below:-

(In thousand bales of 180 k.g per bale)

States 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12#

Assam 715.3 625.4 607.9

Bihar 1118.4 1164.6 1490.7

Orissa 30.4 36.3 32.1

West Bengal 9325.0 8137.5 8558.6

Others 41.3 45.6 46.3

All India 11230.4 10009.4 10735.6

Source: Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Directorate of Economics & Statistics.

(#) Final jute production for 2011-12 is estimated at 10735.6 thousand bales.

In order to protect the interest of the jute growers and to ensure that the raw jute producers receive Minimum Support Price (MSP), The Jute Corporation of India (JCI), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Textiles has been mandated to undertake support price operations for raw jute from farmers at MSP through its 171 Departmental Purchase Centres and State cooperative bodies. Due to the mechanism in place of procurement of raw jute by JCI, the prices are not allowed to fall below MSP so as to avoid hardship to the farmers.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. The requirement of jute packing material (jute bags) for packing food-grains has increased substantially in the past few years and the jute industry/farmers are not facing problems on this account.

(e) & (f): There is no such proposal at present. The Government of India has taken up revival of three jute mills of National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited (NJMC) a Central Public Sector Enterprises namely, Khardah (West Bengal), Kinnison (West Bengal) and RBHM (Bihar).