

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3099
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014
PROMOTION DEVELOPMENT OF JUTE INDUSTRY
Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar;Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote and develop the jute industry in the country specially in West Bengal and Tripura;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there has been a shortfall of supply from mills or demand of jute bags in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government to augment the supply of jute bags and their demand, State-wise;
- (e) whether some States have not procured full amount of jute bags as promised and are shifting to use of plastic bags; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Government of India is taking various steps to promote and develop the jute industry in the country including West Bengal and Tripura. Some of the important measures undertaken include the Jute Technology Mission (2007-13). Compulsory packaging of certain essential commodities under the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory use in packaging commodities), 1987. Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation in raw jute to protect the interest of the jute farmers. The National Jute Board (NJB) runs various scheme for the promotion & development of various linkages of the Jute Value Chain.

(c): The demand of jute bags and supply of jute bags during the year 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and current year is as under:-

(Quantity in 000 Bales)

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
(Khariiff+Rabi) (Khariiff+Rabi) (Khariiff+Rabi) (Khariiff)				
Demand of Jute bags	2685.0	3817.0	2344.0	970.6
Supply of Jute bags	2599.0	2659.0	2340.0	952.0
Short fall in jute bag supply against demand	86.0	1158.0	4.0	18.6

Quantity inspected & passed till 31.10.2014

(d): The reason behind shortfall in demand can be attributed to the lesser demand from State food procurement agencies. The reason behind shortfall in supply of jute bags include jute mills selling in the open market when the market price is higher than Govt. Price, bunching of orders by the procurement agencies etc.

In order to augment supply of jute bags, month-wise procurement of quantity of jute bags is planned in co-ordination meetings held in Department of Food & Public Distribution, normally once in a month and to review if there is any revision of requirements of jute bags and the supply position. In order to ensure continuity of procurement of jute bags for packing food grains, State Government foodgrains procurement agencies has been advised from time to time to place indents according to the plan. All the State Governments have been requested to promote the use of jute bags in packaging of rice/paddy and potatoes & other vegetables.

(e) & (f): Use of bags other than of jute for packaging of foodgrains is permitted only if exemption is given by the Government in case of exigencies. No such permission has been given.