## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1371 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2017

## PRICE OF JUTE BAGS

## 1371. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY KOTHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a move to curb the prices of jute bags the Government has revised the ceiling of the prices of jute bags and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the action taken against persons and firms indulging into malpractices in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to control the irregularities in the jute sector?

## उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी) MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a): No, Madam. Government of India, through its Office of Jute Commissioner, Kolkata declares administered price of B. Twill sacking every month based on the formula prescribed by the Tariff Commission, which factors in the price of raw jute, wages and salaries of people working in jute mills, consumption of power, etc.
- **(b) & (c):** The following action has been taken by the Government to control the irregularities in jute sector:
  - i) The Office of Jute Commissioner along with Quality Assurance Inspectors monitors the quality and supply of jute bags to State Government Agencies on a regular basis. To check malpractices, random and repeated checking of jute sacking bags are undertaken at various points including supplier's premises, loading points and consignee ends.
  - ii) Further, leading (including multi-national) Inspection Agencies have been entrusted to carry out pre-dispatch inspections of jute sacking at the supplier's end (jute mill premises) and the State Procurement Agencies have also been advised to conduct consignee end inspection at their end to check and report malpractices.
  - iii) A revised Jute and Jute Textile Control Order has been notified to take deterrent measures against unfair practices adopted by Jute mills.
  - iv) For effective implementation of the Orders issued from time to time under the Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987,(JPM Act) all Manufacturers, Importers, Processors and traders have been directed to mark / print / brand certain words on the items of jute and jute textiles. In case of import of jute bags, the words "Made in Country of Origin" are required to be marked / printed/ branded. Further, on every imported jute bag and jute cloth, there should be four consecutive red warp threads and four green warp threads at specific distances.
  - v) Under the Jute & Jute Textiles Control Order 2016, Office of Jute Commissioner have been empowered to inspect and penalize errant Jute mills.
  - vi) District and State Authorities have been empowered to enforce the norms stipulated under the JPM Act, 1987.

- vii) Cases have been registered against persons and firms indulging in unlawful recycling of jute bags.
- viii) Penalty has been imposed on jute mills who have been found violating the Jute and Jute Textiles Control Order and the JPM Act, 1987.

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