

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1212
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022

JUTE AND MESTA PRODUCTION

1212. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has adopted any strategic or policy intervention to counter the prolonged stagnation and shrinking rate of production of jute and Mesta in India, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for eco-friendly jute packaging not reaching its full potential;
- (c) the details of the reasons for the expected fall of jute production to 96.64 lakh tonnes this year from 99.08 lakh tonnes the previous season despite raising the minimum support price (MSP) to 4,750 per quintal for the current season, 2022-23 from 4,500 per quintal the previous season; and
- (d) the details of the safeguards, if any, adopted by the Government to protect the workers of the shrinking jute industry?

उत्तर
ANSWER
वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश)
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) to (d): The raw jute & mesta production during the last five years is as under :-

Jute & Mesta Crop	Qty:in lakh bales				
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (Estimated)
	72	68	60	90	95

Source: Jute Advisory Board/Expert Committee on Jute

The production of raw jute has increased over the previous years. However, in year 2020-21, the production of raw jute was low, due to impact of Super Cyclone 'Amphan'.

The Government has adopted following strategy for increasing the raw jute production:-

- Continuation of Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.
- Implementation of National Jute Development Program (NJDP) for development and promotion of Jute Sector.
- Declaration of Minimum Support Price for raw jute to support the farmers.
- Procurement of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India at MSP to safeguard the farmers from distress sale.

The demand of packing material has risen due to larger procurement of food grains by the Government. The production capacity of jute mills is hovering around 26 to 28 lakh bales jute bag per year.

By the continuation of Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987, the Government specifies the commodities and the extent to which they are mandatorily required to be packed in Jute Packaging Materials. During the last four years, the Government has kept reservations 100% for food grains and 20% for sugar, to be packed in jute packaging material. Further, the Government procures 88% of the total production of sacking for packaging of food grains. By this way the Government provides tremendous support to jute farmers, jute workers and industry.
