LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3631 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2024

JUTE PACKAGING MATERIALS ACT (JPMA)

3631. SHRI SUDAMA PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether according to the Jute Packaging Materials Act (JPMA), Jute and Textiles Control Order (JTCO) and the Jute Packaging Mandatory Act, 1987 foodgrains and sugar are packaged in jute bags, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the Government is aware of a shortfall of demand for jute despite good production of jute, if so, the actions taken by the Government to address the shortfall of demand;
- (c) whether the demand shortfall has led to a lot of livelihood losses for the workers and people depending on the industry along with the steps taken by the Government to address the issue;
- (d) the number of complaints received by the Government to violations mandating compulsory jute packaging for foodgrains and sugar during the last three years; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government against these individual complaints and penalties collected during the said period?

उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (**श्री पबित्र मार्घेरिटा**) THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

- (a): Under the provisions of Jute Packaging Materials Act (JPMA), 1987 government specifies the commodities and the extant to which they are mandatorily required to be packed in Jute Packaging Materials. The stipulations of 100% food grains and 20% sugar for packing in jute bags has been kept over the last six years.
- (b) & (c): As per stipulations of Jute and Textiles Control Order (JTCO) and the Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987 different State Procuring Agencies (SPAs) including Food Corporation of India (FCI) purchase jute bags for packing food grains per annum. The total purchase currently constitutes about 81% of the total production of jute goods. During the last three years, a quantity of 26.49 lakh bales, 34.81 lakh bales and 36.30 lakh bales of jute bags have been procured by different SPAs and FCI. Hence, there is no shortfall of demand for jute bags. Further, no such incident of job loss of jute workers has been reported to this office.
- (d) & (e): No complaint indicating specific incidences of violations by any particular entity of mandatory compulsory jute packaging for food grains and sugar have been received by the Ministry during the last three years.
