

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4730  
ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006  
SHORTAGE OF JUTE BAGS  
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether several Sugar Mills Associations have represented about shortage of Jute Bags for packing Foodgrains and sugar as required under J.P.M. Act, 1987;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to allow import of jute bags to meet the shortage; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a)&(b) : In the month of December, 2005, the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd., the Indian Sugar Mills Association and the Haryana State Federation of Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd. complained about shortage in supply of A.Twill jute bags for packaging sugar. These complaints were received by Ministry of Textiles through the Ministry of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India. On receipt of these complaints, the Office of Jute Commissioner requested the five Sugar Mills Associations to furnish the quantity of A.Twill bags ordered by them and the quantity of bags received by them during the year 2005-06. As per the information furnished by the Sugar Mills, the requirement of A.Twill jute bags is 2.02 lakh M.T for packing sugar and the total dispatch of A.Twill bags is 2.24 lakh M.T. in 2005-2006.

As regards supply of B.Twill bags for packaging foodgrains, no representation has been received in the Ministry of Textiles regarding any shortage. As per information furnished by the O/o Jute Commissioner, the total requirement of B.Twill bags is 5.56 lakh MT against which 6.3 lakh MT of B.Twill bags has been dispatched for packaging foodgrains. Hence, there is no shortage of A.Twill and B.Twill bags for packaging sugar and foodgrains in the country.

(c)&(d) : Under Section (3) of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987, jute packaging material used for packing foodgrains and sugar are required to be manufactured in India from raw jute produced in India. Therefore the question of allowing use of imported jute bags for these purposes does not arise. However, import of jute goods, including jute bags are allowed under Open General License.