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Title: Need to increase the Minimum Support Price of Jute from Rs. 1600/- to Rs. 4000/- per quintal.

SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY (COOCH BEHAR): Madam, it is an admitted fact that jute is the most vital economic crop not only in West Bengal but also in other States of India. In West Bengal, the farmers fully depend on jute for their bread and butter. We all know that the things made from jute are also eco-friendly.

It is a matter of grave concern that the amount fixed by the Government of India is Rs.1670 per quintal. Fixing up the amount of jute shows that they are quite ignorant of the cost needed for the cultivation of jute. Consequently, jute farmers are in a fix how to manage their family. What about the profit of the farmers who are going on shedding sweat for the cultivation of jute? Do they know how much does it cost for its cultivation? The present cost of labour, fertilizer and with ploughing, it reaches almost Rs.1600/- per quintal. So, it is clear that the interest of jute cultivators are fully ignored.

So, I firmly demand that the sale rate of jute should immediately be increased to Rs.4000/- per quintal. Above all, the profit of the farmers must be looked into if India is to prosper in agriculture. I want remunerative price and the Jute Corporation of India should purchase jute from the farmers.