

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

Questionnaire for Price Policy for Jute/Mesta for 2010-2011 season.

1. Based on production of jute and mesta as assessed by Jute Advisory Board for the last five seasons including the current season, furnish a detailed balance-sheet showing availability/supply, consumption and year-end stocks and value of stocks of raw jute owned by different players.
2. Give your assessment about the current varietal/grade composition of national raw jute production. In case, this differs greatly from the one you consider ideal based on emerging demand for jute goods, suggest measures for appropriately changing the grade profile of raw jute.
3. Give an analytical note on the price situation for raw jute and jute goods in the domestic as well as international market during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 till date. It would be appreciated if the analysis is supported by month-wise price data along with yearly average price data for important primary as well as secondary markets for the period under review.
4. Indicate the occasions (month and markets) when prices of jute fell below MSP during the last five years and the reasons for that.
5. Production of jute goods (Hessian, Sacking, CBC and others) for the last five years. Whether any significant change observed in the production trends of these goods? If yes, reasons thereof.
6. Demand of Government agencies for B-twill/other kinds of jute bags during the last 3 seasons, month-wise allocation and lifting.
7. Assessment of domestic and international demand and supply of jute and jute goods during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. Your assessment of competitiveness of Indian jute goods vis-à-vis those of Bangladesh. In this context, furnish comparative data on prevailing rates of levies/taxes (excise/customs, purchase taxes etc) during the last 5 years in these two countries.
8. Assessment of competitiveness of Indian Jute packaging materials vis-à-vis those made of synthetic fibers. Their comparative costs and prices for recent years.
9. Export performance of jute manufactures (item-wise, quantity and value) for the last five years alongwith the directions of export of jute goods during the last five years.

10. Give item-wise details of production and exports of diversified jute products in quantity and value terms for the last ten years and also imports, if any.
11. Raw jute situation (i.e. production, price and utilization) in Bangladesh during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 and its impact on Indian raw jute/jute goods economy.
12. Import of raw jute and jute manufactures from Bangladesh (quantity and value). Give details (quantity by grade and product and its value) for last five years.
13. Your views on the level of minimum support price for jute and mesta and grade differentials for the 2010-11 season.
14. Furnish detailed Action Plan and its implementation in regard to Technology Mission on Jute. State-wise status of the achievements under the Mission be furnished.
15. (i) Whether any Action Plan has been prepared on the National Jute Policy (2005). If yes, furnish the state-wise details of its implementation.
(ii) Give your views on futures trading in jute.
16. Give your comments on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in jute industry.
17. State-wise and All-India average marketing charges paid by the farmers per quintal for selling of jute/mesta at purchasing centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.
- 18 (i) State-wise and All-India average expenses on insurance premium borne by the jute/mesta growers per hectare as well as per quintal on crop insurance scheme;

(ii) State-wise and All-India level percentage of jute/mesta growers covered under the crop insurance scheme. Whether farmers face any problem in insuring their crop against both crop and income losses arising out of natural calamities/pest attacks etc.?

(iii) Give your comments/suggestions for improving the present National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to make it more farmer friendly to the jute/mesta growers. Also give comments on the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of jute/mesta.

19. State-wise and All-India average transport cost per quintal being paid by the farmers for bringing their produce for sale at purchase centre/ mandie/marketing yards etc.

Note: In case you find it difficult or cumbersome to furnish lengthy answers, you may supply readily available material as enclosures.

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

Questionnaire for Price Policy for Jute/Mesta for 2010-2011 season.

1. Based on industry estimates, please furnish a balance sheet showing stocks, production, availability, consumption and other disappearances during the last five years including 2009-2010. If possible, also indicate the ownership break-up of the year-end stocks.
2. Give your assessment about the current variety-wise/grade composition of national raw jute production. In case, this differs greatly from the one you consider ideal based on emerging demand for jute goods, suggest appropriate measures for changing the grade profile of raw jute.
3. Furnish data on prices of raw jute and jute goods in the major markets during 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons alongwith the reasons for changes in the prices.
4. Production of jute goods (Hessian, sacking, CBC and others) during the last 5 years and the raw jute used in each of these goods.
5. Furnish the total demand and demand profile of different categories of jute goods alongwith the corresponding raw jute usage against the total demand and each category. Also specify the broad sources of such demand including Government orders for the last 5 years.
6. Details of supply arrangements for bags and other jute goods to DGS&D alongwith actual monthly supplies and total for each year during the last five years.
7. Give an account of the changes/amendments made in the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 in recent years and their impact on the demand for jute goods/raw jute.
8. Economics of exports of Indian jute products in recent years. Your assessment of competitiveness of Indian Jute goods vis-a-vis those of Bangladesh as well as synthetic substitutes. In this context, comparative data on costs and prices for the latest 5 years also be provided.
9. Imports of raw jute and jute manufactures from Bangladesh. Give details (quantity by grade and product and its value) for last five years. Comment on the effects of such imports on domestic jute industry.

10. Reference prices of different jute products in major export markets during the last 5 years and its impact on domestic jute products production, its prices and on export performance.
11. Furnish your comments/views on (i) prevailing rates of Central/State levies/taxes on raw jute and jute goods; (ii) import duty on raw jute and jute products.
12. Give your views regarding futures trading in jute.
13. Furnish your views on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in jute industry.
14. (i) Give a write-up on the state of the jute industry or quote/supply literature/bibliography on the subject.
(ii) Give an update on product diversification, modernization and rehabilitation of jute industry.
(iii) Whether any Action Plan has been prepared on the National Jute Policy (2005). If yes, furnish the state-wise details of its implementation.
15. Broad component-wise break-up on cost of production of jute bags, sacking and hessian in 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, e.g. cost of raw jute, labour, other conversion costs, interest, depreciation etc.
16. Furnish detailed Action Plan and its implementation in regard to Technology Mission on Jute. State-wise status of the achievements under the Mission be furnished.
17. State-wise and All-India average marketing charges paid by the farmers per quintal for selling of jute/mesta at purchasing centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.
18. (i) State-wise and All-India average expenses on insurance premium borne by the jute/mesta growers per hectare as well as per quintal on crop insurance scheme;

(ii) State-wise and All-India level percentage of jute/mesta growers covered under the crop insurance scheme. Whether farmers face any problem in insuring their crop against both crop and income losses arising out of natural calamities/pest attacks etc.?

(iii) Give your comments/suggestions for improving the present National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to make it more farmer friendly to the jute/mesta growers. Also give comments on the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of jute/mesta.
19. State-wise and All-India average transport cost per quintal being paid by the farmers for bringing their produce for sale at purchase centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.

20. Any other matter pertaining to the jute economy that the Association may like to bring to the notice of the Commission.

Note: In case you find it difficult or cumbersome to furnish lengthy answers, you could supply instead readily available material as enclosures.

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

Questionnaire for Price Policy for Jute/Mesta for 2010-2011 season

1. Kindly furnish the following information:
 - (i) Area, production and yield of Jute/Mesta crop in your state from 2004-2005 to 2009-2010 season and production target for the 2010-2011 season.
 - (ii) The proportion of area under important varieties including capsularis and olitorius species of jute and their yield from 2000-01 to 2009-2010. What should be the ideal varietal composition of raw jute and why?
2. An update on various research and extension programmes being implemented in your state for enhancing the yield and quality of raw jute and their impact so far. In this context, give an update on the working of the Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) before and after it was brought under the Work Plan?
3. The retting facilities available in your state alongwith suggestions for improving the quality of fibre.
4. (i) Details of operation-wise statutory minimum wages for agricultural labour (Rs/man-day) alongwith the effective dates:-

Years

<u>Operation</u> (likely)	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Ploughing				
Sowing				
Weeding				
Harvesting				
Retting				
Others				

- (ii) Details of operation-wise actual wage rates for agricultural labour in different parts of the state (Rs/man-day) for jute.

<u>Regions</u> (likely)	<u>Operation</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
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Ploughing

Sowing

Weeding

Harvesting

Retting

Others

5. (i) Required quantities of different inputs i.e. certified/local seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, etc. and their actual availability in the last three seasons and the target for ensuing season.

(ii) Prices of important insecticides/pesticides (Rs...kg/litre) used during the last three seasons and the likely prices for the ensuing season.

(iii) Prices of certified and local seeds, during the last two seasons and likely rates in the ensuing season. Whether quality seeds are available in adequate quantities? If not, specify the plans for meeting the requirements.
6. (i) The major sources of irrigation for jute crop in the state and their share in the total irrigated area during the last three years.

(ii) The number of times irrigation is normally required for this crop?

(iii) Item- wise/source- wise cost of irrigation per hectare for jute.
7. Estimates, if any, of the cost of cultivation per hectare on the basis of various inputs used and cost of production per quintal of jute for the last two seasons and the likely per hectare/per quintal cost for the ensuing crop season.
8. (i) Month-end as well as yearly averaged wholesale prices of jute (grade-wise for white and tossa varieties) and mesta at important primary as well as secondary markets in the state during the last three seasons alongwith a detailed analysis of the price movements.

(ii) Whether the market prices of raw jute/mesta fell below the minimum support price level at any occasion during the last three seasons. If yes, indicate with location/price details, reasons thereof alongwith corrective measures taken by JCI/State agencies.
9. (i) Whether the JCI's intervention was quite adequate in providing price support for jute during the current season.

(ii) Steps taken by the state government for active involvement of Panchayats and other village level institution, societies for supplementing the efforts of the JCI.

10. (i) The price support operations of various agencies during the last three seasons and the current year.
- (ii) The steps taken by the State Govt. to improve marketing infrastructure including activation of producers' cooperatives in jute growing areas in order to ensure better realization by the farmers.
11. (i) The prevailing rates of central/state levies/taxes on raw jute and jute goods during the last five years. (ii) Give your comments on import duty on raw jute and jute products.
12. (i) Views of the State Government on the level of minimum support price for raw jute/mesta for the 2010-2011 season.
- (ii) Whether the State Govt. wants any change in the number of grades and their specifications for the purpose of fixing minimum support prices of raw jute. If so, give reasons in its support.
- (iii) Does the state want change in price differentials for different location specific grades of jute/mesta. If yes, specify the reasons for the same.

Views of the State Government regarding futures trade in jute.

13. Provide the information on the marketing charges paid by the farmers per quintal for selling of jute/mesta at purchasing centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.
14. (a) Furnish the expenses on premium borne by the jute/mesta growers per hectare as well as per quintal on crop insurance scheme being operated in your state.
- (b) Is the crop insurance compulsory for loanee farmers? Are the non-loanee farmers also covered under the scheme?
- © Whether the scheme of crop insurance is extended to farmers who are not owner-cultivators but lease in land for cultivation purposes?
- (d) Do the farmers face problems in insuring their crops against both crop and income loss arising out of natural calamities/pest attacks etc.?
- (e) Is the insurance coverage farmer specific, and if not what is the procedure followed in covering the production loss of the farmers under the prevalent insurance scheme?
- (f) Whether insurance scheme covers all category of farmers or specific category, provide details?

- (g) The level of spread of crop insurance among Jute/mesta farmers in the state.
- (h) State the issues, if any, in the implementation of crop insurance scheme.
- (i) Give your comments/suggestions for improving the present National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to make it more farmer friendly to the jute/mesta growers. Also give comments on the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of jute/mesta.
- 15 (a) What are the modes of transportation taking jute/mesta up to the purchase centre/mandie/marketing yards etc. Give relative proportion of jute/mesta transported through these modes and cost of transportation per quintal by different modes and modal average distance between the farmer fields and the nearest mandie/marketing yard/purchasing centre.
- (b) Furnish the average cost of transportation per quintal/per kilometer incurred by jute/mesta growing farmers taking their produce for marketing up to the nearest procurement centre/marketing yards/mandie etc.
16. Whether any Action Plan has been prepared on the National Jute Policy (2005) concerning your state. If yes, furnish the details of its implementation.
17. Furnish your views on Foreign Direct Investment in jute industry.
18. Any other matter pertaining to the jute economy which your State may like to bring to the notice of the Commission.

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

Questionnaire for Price Policy for Jute/Mesta for 2010-2011 season.

1. Furnish a detailed balance sheet showing all the items like carryover stocks (by JCI, Mills, Traders, etc.) of production, availability/supply, consumption and other disappearances of jute and mesta during the last five years including 2009-2010.
2. Give your assessment about the current varietal/grade composition of raw jute production of the country. In case, this differs greatly from the one you consider ideal based on emerging demand for jute goods, suggest appropriate measures for changing the grade profile of raw jute giving reasons in its support.
3. Raw jute position in respect of yearly average and month-wise carry over stocks, purchases (support/commercial) and sales and unit price realization by the Corporation during the last five years including 2009-2010.
4. Purchases of Jute in terms of quantity and value by JCI, cooperatives and other state agencies during the last five seasons.
5. Financial or any other constraints faced by JCI and other agencies in price support and commercial operations during the last three seasons. In this context, provide a detailed note on the adequacy of financial arrangements for effective price support operations.
6. Impact of JCI purchases on market prices in various important markets during the previous five seasons.
7. Impact of purchases of raw jute by mills at up-country markets during the previous five seasons and the extent of mill purchases during the current season so far.
8. Give your views/comments on (i) prevailing rates of central/state levies/taxes on raw jute and jute goods; (ii) import duty on raw jute and jute products.
9. An analytical note on the price situation of raw jute in primary as well as secondary markets during 2006-2007, 2007-2008 2008-2009 and 2009-10 and expectations about its behaviour in the remaining part of the current season and state the

instances where (month/market) the prices ruling below the support levels during the past five seasons and during 2009-2010 and the steps taken by the Corporation to stabilize the prices of raw jute. Views on adequacy of purchase centers/sub centers of Jute Corporation of India supported by data/other objective information.

10. Your views on the level of the minimum support price for raw jute/mesta alongwith differentials by grade and location for 2010-2011 season.
11. Whether the present grading of jute/mesta is sufficient or some change is required in the grading? Your views on the desirability of Commission to continue recommending prices for TD-5 grade or should change the reference grade.
12. Give your views regarding futures trading in jute.
13. Whether any Action Plan has been prepared on the National Jute Policy (2005). If yes, furnish the state-wise details of its implementation.
14. Furnish your views on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in jute industry.
15. State-wise and All-India average marketing charges paid by the farmers per quintal for selling of jute/mesta at purchasing centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.
16. (i) State-wise and All-India average expenses on insurance premium borne by the jute/mesta growers per hectare as well as per quintal on crop insurance scheme;

(ii) State-wise and All-India level percentage of jute/mesta growers covered under the crop insurance scheme. Whether farmers face any problem in insuring their crop against both crop and income losses arising out of natural calamities/pest attacks etc.?

(iii) Give your comments/suggestions for improving the present National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to make it more farmer friendly to the jute/mesta growers. Also give comments on the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of jute/mesta.
17. State-wise and All-India average transport cost per quintal being paid by the farmers for bringing their produce for sale at purchase centre/ mandie/marketing yards etc.

18. Any other matter pertaining to the jute economy that the JCI may like to bring to the notice of the Commission.

Note: In case you find it difficult or cumbersome to furnish lengthy answers, you could supply instead readily available material as enclosures.

COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COSTS AND PRICES

Questionnaire for Price Policy for Jute/Mesta for 2009-2010 season.

1. (a) Provide state-wise and total for All-India data on Area, Production and Yield of raw jute/mesta and combined for the last five years and the target for 2010-2011, followed by an analytical note explaining the inter-year variations in these parameters. In this context, also explain the reasons for divergence in the raw jute production of Jute Advisory Board and those of the Government.
- (b) Indicate the varietal composition of jute production in recent years. What in your opinion should be the ideal varietal composition of raw jute and the reasons thereof?
2. (a) Give an update on the research and extension programmes being implemented in the jute growing states for enhancing the productivity and quality of raw jute and their impact. In this context, provide a detailed account of the working of the Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP). Has the implementation of SJDP in different states improved after it was brought under the respective work plans?
- (b) Furnish the detailed Action Plan and its implementation in regard to Technology Mission on Jute. The state-wise status of achievements under the Mission be furnished.
- (c) Whether any Action Plan has been prepared on the National Jute Policy (2005). If yes, furnish the state-wise details of its implementation.
3. Your assessment about the impact of dilution of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987, on the aggregate demand for raw jute.
4. State-wise and All-India average marketing charges paid by the farmers per quintal for selling of jute/mesta at purchasing centre/mandie/marketing yards etc.
5. (i) State-wise and All-India average expenses on insurance premium borne by the jute/mesta growers per hectare as well as per quintal on crop insurance scheme;
- (ii) State-wise and All-India level percentage of jute/mesta growers covered under the crop insurance scheme. Whether farmers face any problem in insuring their crop against both crop and income losses arising out of natural calamities/pest attacks etc.?

- (iii) Give your comments/suggestions for improving the present National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to make it more farmer friendly to the jute/mesta growers. Also give comments on the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in respect of jute/mesta.
- 6. State-wise and All-India average transport cost per quintal being paid by the farmers for bringing their produce for sale at purchase centre/ mandie/marketing yards etc.
- 7. Views on the level of minimum support price for raw jute/mesta and the grade differentials therein for the 2010-2011 season.
