
Government of India has announced the Price Policy for Raw Jute for 2015-16 season. Decisions taken are as under:-

(i) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of TDN$_3$ (equivalent to TD$_3$) grade of Raw Jute for 2015-16 season has been fixed at Rs. 2700 per quintal for the entire country.

(ii) The number of grades of Raw Jute has been reduced from the existing eight (TD$_1$ to TD$_8$) to five grades (TDN$_1$ to TDN$_5$) by merging TD$_1$ and TD$_2$ (TDN$_1$), TD$_3$ and TD$_4$ (TDN$_2$) and TD$_5$ and TD$_7$ (TDN$_3$). In the new scheme TD$_5$ will be equivalent to TDN$_3$ and TD$_8$ will be TDN$_5$.

(iii) Premia for TDN$_1$ and TDN$_2$ will be kept higher by 25 percent and 15 percent respectively in relation to TDN$_3$.

(iv) Corresponding Minimum Support Price for other varieties and grades of Raw Jute will be fixed keeping in view, apart from normal market price differentials, the aggregate scores assigned to different grades of raw jute.

(v) The Jute Corporation of India will continue as Central Government Nodal Agency to undertake Price Support Operations and the losses incurred, if any, in the MSP operations, will be fully reimbursed by the Central Government.

(vi) Action may be taken by the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government, State Governments and other agencies on non-price recommendations of the CACP as appropriate.

2. In this connection, I am directed to request you to take appropriate action immediately on the above decisions under intimation to this office.

(R. Shiva Shankar)
Assistant Director
Telephone: 011-23387244

To,

1. Secretary,
Ministry of Textiles,
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi. Tel: 23061769, Fax No. : 2306 3681
2. Jute Commissioner,
Office of the Jute Commissioner,
Ministry of Textiles, Government of India,
CGO Complex, 3rd MSO Building, 4th Floor DF Block,
Sector-1, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 064. 
Phone: 033-23376970, FAX-033-23376972/6973/6974

3. Chairman - cum - Managing Director,
Jute Corporation of India Ltd.
15 N, Nellie Sengupta Sarani, Kolkata-700 087, Phone: 033-22527027, FAX-033-22521771

4. Secretary,
Department of Food and Public Distribution,
Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

5. Joint Secretary (M & T Division),
Ministry of Agriculture,
Room No. 236, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

6. Joint Secretary (Cops Division)
Ministry of Agriculture
Room No. 297 D, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

(R. Shiva Shankar)
Assistant Director

Copy to Information:

1. Secretary, Economic Affairs,
Department of Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Finance, Government of India, 130, North Block, New Delhi.

2. Secretary and DG
Department of Agricultural Research & Education & ICAR,
Krishi Bhawan, (Room No. 105.), New Delhi.
Copy for information and necessary action:

1. Shri Anjani Kumar Singh,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of Bihar,
   Main Secretariat Building, Patna-800 015
   Phone: 0612-2215804, 2223246
   FAX-0612-2217085, 2223983/2234518

2. Shri Gokul Chandra Pati,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar-751 001
   Phone: 0674-2536700, 2534300 FAX-0674-2536660

3. Shri Sanjay Mitra,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of West Bengal,
   Writer’s Building, Kolkata-700 001
   Phone: 033-22145858, 22144328, FAX-033-22144328

4. Shri Jitesh Khosla,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of Assam,
   Assam Sachivalaya, Dispur, Guwahati-781 006
   Phone: 0361-2261120, 2261403 FAX-0361-2260900

5. Shri G. Kameswara Rao,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of Tripura,
   Secretariat, Agartala-799 001
   Phone: 0381-2443200/2414392 FAX-0381-2324013

6. Shri I.Y.R. Krishna Rao,
   Chief Secretary,
   Government of Andhra Pradesh,
   Hyderabad-500 002
   Ph: 040-23451088, 23451074 FAX-040-23456137
7. Shri Rajiv Sharma,
Chief Secretary,
Government of Telagana,
C-Block, Hyderabad-500002
Ph: 040-23452620, 23455340 FAX-040-23453700

Copy for Information to:

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary (A&C), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Sr. PPS to Principal Adviser, DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. PS to ESA, DES, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. JS (Cooperation), DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Adviser (FE), DES, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Adviser (Coordination Division), DES, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

7. Technical Officer, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

( R. Shiva Shankar )
Assistant Director
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Effective procurement of jute is constrained by inadequate Department Procurement Centers (DPCs) especially in far flung areas. The Commission recommends setting up of additional DPCs in far flung areas so as to enable the farmers to get the right price near their farms itself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The country needs to move away from the practice of using roadside ditches and ponds for retting on priority by construction of community retting tanks and providing decorticating machines. The government needs to formulate a Scheme under which retting tanks and decorticating machines could be provided on a large scale. This would enrich working conditions of cultivators, cut down labour costs and improve fibre quality and also accelerate the speed of operations. Enhanced labour productivity and improved quality would help improve competitiveness of Indian Jute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Certain districts namely Bongaigaon (Assam), Kisanganj (Bihar), and Hooghly (West Bengal) have much higher productivity levels compared to those of their respective states’ averages. While these districts may have certain advantage in terms of natural endowment, they could be following better farming practices which need to be explored separately. To make optimum utilization of scarce land resources, it is imperative to study these districts in greater details so that farming practices and inputs used in these districts could be propagated/ replicated to other districts, subject to adaptability and other technical constraints. This will go a long way in augmenting overall productivity levels and containing costs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>At present, 90 percent of food grains and 20 percent of sugar is to be compulsorily packed in jute bags under the JPM Act, 1987. This provision does not enthuse the jute industry to modernize and diversify their production. It is, therefore, imperative to reduce this to 75 percent in case of food grains and sugar sector be totally exempted from compulsory packaging. A concerned push towards diversification to high value products should be undertaken on priority. The jute industry needs to strengthen its efforts towards modernization and product diversification to accelerate its growth in medium to long run.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*****