traders to the level before the end-users, to register with the Office of Jute Commissioner, and furnish monthly reports on the imported goods. The Government has also directed all manufacturers, importers processors and traders to mark/print/brand the words "Made in-Country of Origin" on imported bags. Customs have also been requested to maintain a strict vigil so that no unregistered importers/ traders can import jute and no unbranded jute goods can enter India.

(d) The data of revenue earned by the Jute industry including the Mills and SSI units are not maintained by the Government. However, a cess of 1% on all jute manufactures is collected through Central Excise under Jute Manufactures Cess Act 1983 and deposited in the consolidated fund of India. These funds are utilized by National Jute Board centrally for development and promotion of jute sector. The details of funds utilized by the National Jute Board (NJB) during the last three years for development and promotion of jute sector are given below:

(In ₹ lakhs)

Year	Grants released to and utilized by NJB
2012-13	3551.00
2013-14	3551.00
2014-15	4510.00
2015-16	5369.00

Improving the skills of textile workers

3097. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched a new scheme to improve the skills of workers in various segments of the Textile industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to target training of 100 lakh textile workers by 2022, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) The Ministry of Textiles is implementing Integrated Skill Development Scheme with a view to address the skilled manpower needs of various segments in textile industry. The scheme launched on pilot basis in 2010-11, has been up-scaled during Twelfth Five Year Plan to train 15 lakh persons. Textile sector is also covered under various skilling schemes implemented under Skill India campaign of the Government including Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikash Yojna (PMKVY).

(b) No proposal is under consideration to train 100 lakh textile workers by 2022. However, Ministry of Textiles has announced a special package for textiles and apparel sector which targets to generate 100 lakh employment over next three years thereby creating the needs of demand driven skill development in the sector.

Exemption for use of jute packaging material bag

3098. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has exempted the mandatory rules for use of jute packaging material bag replacing with polypropylene fibre;

(b) whether Government has taken clearance from the concerned Department on eco-friendly norms therefor, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the experts' report on purview of 'JPM Act' thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (c) No Sir. The Schedule of Notification No. S.O. 126(E) dated 14.1.2016 issued under the JPM Act, stipulates that a minimum of 90% of foodgrains and a minimum of 20% of sugar are to be mandatorily packed in jute packaging material manufactured in India and raw jute produced in India. A dilution upto 30% is allowed in case jute mills are unable to meet the government demand. These norms are valid upto 30th September, 2016.

The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 (JPM Act) has been enacted in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material, and of persons engaged in the production thereof. Under the provisions of the JPM Act, a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) is constituted to make recommendations to the Government on the jute packaging norms. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, or his representative, is a member of this Committee; which recommends the norms for packaging food grains and sugar for the current jute year. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, the Government stipulates the jute packaging norms.

The report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), recommended that compulsory packaging for jute sacking in foodgrains should be reduced to the level of 75% and sugar sector should be totally exempted from such mandatory reservation. Similarly, the Competition Commission of India has recommended to protect the interest of jute industry by imposing restriction on Polypropylene (PP)/High density polyethylene pipe (HDPE), if the latter affects the competitiveness of jute sacking. Department of Expenditure is of the view that reservation for jute sacking should be reduced to the level of 70% and a roadmap for gradual reduction of extent of reservation should be prepared.