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77.	Finlay Mills	Maharashtra	October, 2009	Relocation of mill at the land of Vidharbha Mills, Achalpur
78.	Minerva Mills, Bangalore	Karnataka	March, 2011	Mill relocated to SEZ area of Hassan

#### **B-Twill bag impact on jute industry**

†1540. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved other types of sacks instead of bales of 2,58,000 jute sacks for kharif and rabi seasons in 2019-20;

(b) whether Government purchases a large number of B-Twill bags from industries in order to stuff grains;

(c) whether jute industry is feared to suffer losses of millions of crores due to purchase of other type of jute sacks, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) With a view to protect the interests of persons engaged in production of jute, the Government enacted the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 (JPM Act). At present, 100% foodgrains and minimum 20% of sugar produced in the country should mandatorily be packed in jute bags. Under this Act, State Procurement Agencies (SPAs) are mandated to procure foodgrains and sugar in jute sacks. However, relaxation is provided to the extent of shortfall in supply of jute sacks to meet the exigency of the indents placed by SPAs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

A total demand of 19.943 lakh bales of jute sacks for packaging foodgrains and sugar was raised by SPAs during rabi season 2019-20 out of which relaxation to the tune of 3.61 lakh bales has been given. No relaxation has been given for Kharif season 2019-20 till date.

(c) and (d) No Sir, the jute industry has not suffered any losses due to purchase of other type of sacks as relaxation was given over and above the supply capacity of jute mills so as to ensure smooth procurement operations.

**Promotion and development of handicrafts sector**

1541. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by Government for promotion and development of handicrafts sector;

(b) the details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred during last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the employment growth projected in handicrafts sector, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Yes Sir, the Government implements various schemes for promotion and development of handicraft sector under "National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP)" and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS). The NHDP has following components:—

- (i) The Scheme "Base Line Survey and Mobilization of Artisans under Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana" aims to promote Indian handicrafts by developing artisans' clusters into professionally managed and self-reliant community enterprise on the principles of effective member participation and mutual cooperation.
- (ii) The Scheme "Design and Technology Up gradation" aims to upgrade artisan's skills through development of innovative designs and prototypes products for overseas market, revival of endangered crafts and preservation of heritage etc.
- (iii) The Scheme "Human Resource Development" has been formulated to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector.