

JUTE TECHNOLOGY MISSION

The Jute Sector occupies an important place in the economy of the country in general, and Eastern India in particular. The jute industry provides direct employment to about 0.37 million workers, and supports the livelihood of around 4.0 million farm families. Around 0.14 million people are engaged in the tertiary sector and allied activities supporting the jute economy. The jute industry also contributes to exports to the tune of nearly Rs.1502 crore (2011-12) annually. The CCEA approved the National Jute Policy, 2005 (NJP) in its meeting held on 29th March, 2005.

The Jute Technology Mission has been a major component of the National Jute Policy and is the vehicle for implementation of multifarious programmes in the jute sector, both present and future. Pursuant to the National Jute Policy, 2005, the CCEA approved the Jute Technology Mission (2006-07 to 2010-11) in its meeting held on 02.6.2006 with a total outlay of Rs.355.55 crore. The Jute Technology Mission comprised four Mini Missions, to be completed during 2006-07 to 2010-11. However, the Mission could not be completed within the scheduled time on account of multiple reasons.

Subsequently, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the following in its meeting held on 26th April, 2012:

- i) extension of the implementation period of the “Jute Technology Mission (2006-07 to 2010-11)” by two years beyond 2010-11(i.e. 2006-07 to 2012-13).
- ii) reallocation of funds among the Missions while maintaining the overall grants at the same level as was approved by the CCEA vide its meeting held on 02.6.2006.

The objectives of Jute Technology Mission are:

- Improve the yield and quality of jute fibre by (a) developing new varieties; (b) developing improved retting procedures; and, (c) promoting scientific agronomic practices;
- Strengthen the existing infrastructure to develop and supply quality seeds through the public-private partnership framework;
- Implement quality improvement programmes with a thrust on retting and the adoption of other innovative extraction technologies;
- increase the supply of quality raw material to the jute industry at reasonable prices so that they can meet the growing demand for better quality yarn, twine and fabric for Diversified Jute Products (JDPs);
- Explore the prospect of Commercial utilization of sun hemp, ramie, jute and mesta in the pulp and paper industry;

- Establish strong market linkages by improving the available markets, and put in place a rural network of market facilities for the benefit of jute growers;
- Modernize plant and machinery in the jute industry, adopt international standards, and upgrade skills;
- Take up market promotional activities and explore new areas to increase the consumption of raw jute, Jute Diversified Products (JDs), and increase earnings through export.

The operationalization of JTM through its four Mini Missions is as under:

Mini Missions	Executing Ministry/ Department	Outlay (Rs in Crore)
Mini Mission – I	Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture.	7.05
Mini Mission – II	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture	49.90
Mini Mission – III	Ministry of Textiles	64.58
Mini Mission – IV	Ministry of Textiles	234.02
Total		355.55

Details of activities of Mini Missions under JTM are as under:

MINI MISSION –I (MM-I)

This Mini-Mission will be coordinated and implemented by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) /Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the Ministry of Agriculture. The mandate of Mini Mission-I will be to strengthen research and technology activities for the development of improved varieties and protection technologies for jute and allied fibre crops. The potential productivity of the newly developed technology, including new varieties will be raised at least by 25 percent. Research efforts will be directed towards the development of varieties for different agro-climatic zones. New varieties will be developed to include desirable quantitative and qualitative characteristics to meet various agro-industrial needs. Research efforts will also cover the process of retting, which is an integral process contribution to the improvement of the quality of the fibre. Mini Mission-I comprises six schemes with total proposed outlay of Rs.7.05 crore during the entire Mission period.

MINI MISSION-II (MM-II)

This Mini-Mission will be coordinated and implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The mandate of Mini Mission-II will be to transfer improved technology through extension to the farmers MM-II will harness post production and management technologies and concentrate on post-harvest technology to augment yield and quality improvement of jute and allied crops. Separate development programmes for associated fibres will also be launched under this Mission, and it will consider the prospects of commercial

utilization of jute and allied fibres in the pulp and paper industry. Mini Mission-II comprises eighteen schemes with total proposed outlay of Rs.49.90 crore during the entire Mission period.

MINI MISSION – III (MM-III)

This Mini-Mission will be coordinated and implemented by the Ministry of Textiles. The mandate of this Mini Mission will be to develop and ensure efficient market linkages and value addition for raw jute. This will include upgradation of the existing market infrastructure and facilities to be provided to frame the aim will be to provide market support to farmers to enable them to get a fair market price by providing reliable and accessible market information. The focus on the technology transfer programmes to improve fibre quality through the adoption of improved retting techniques will be an integral part of the MM-III. Mini Mission –III comprises five schemes with total proposed outlay of Rs.64.58 crore during the entire Mission period. The physical and financial progress of the Mini Mission-III as on 31.03.2014 is as under:

Name of Scheme	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
	Allocation		Completion	
		Rs. in crore		Rs. in crore
I. Development of Market Yard	12	11.98	11	11.46
II. Construction of DPC	40	44.00	28	36.91
III. Construction of Retting Tank	45	5.00	43	1.65
IV. Demonstration Retting Technology	200	2.00	200	2.00
V. Development of High Speed Jute Ribboner	3 Projects (with JU, CRIJAF, NIRJAFT)	1.60	1 st Phase Completed. 2 nd phase under trial run	1.60
Total		64.58		53.84

MINI MISSION –IV (MM-IV)

This Mini Mission will be coordinated and implemented by the Ministry of Textiles. This Mini Mission will focus on modernization of jute industry either through replacement of old machinery with new ones and establishing green field modernized mills. It is proposed to introduce a scheme titled “Acquisition of Modern and Efficient Machinery & Plants” with a proposed allocation of Rs.100 crore. This scheme will replace the existing scheme of the Jute Manufactures Development Council of Modernization of Jute Industry. The subsidy component will be 20% of identified machinery and plants subject to the pecuniary limit of Rs.75 lakh in case of existing mills, which may be enhanced to Rs.1 crore for the North East States and Rs.1 crore for altogether new mills. Mini Mission-IV will also include training and upgradation of skills of the workers engaged in the jute sector. It will lay emphasis on the need to transform the traditional product portfolio of the Jute Industry to include jute diversified products as these

incorporate not only value addition, but are also intended to boost exports and emphasize the multiple uses for which jute can be employed. This will include the promotion of technical textiles made from jute for agriculture, road building etc., and the use of jute composites in industry. Altogether, Mini Mission-IV comprises nine schemes with total proposed outlay of Rs.234.02 crore during the entire Mission period.

Since inception of the scheme (upto 31.03.2014), A total investment of Rs.518.61 crore for Modernization and Upgradation of Technology in Jute Mills was made under the Capital Subsidy Scheme in 120 units all over India. Productivity improvement & TQM facilitation exercises were undertaken and implemented in 12 mills as processes for good governance. 21 markets driven R&D Studies for development of new processes and new diversified products were conducted by reputed institutions of India. Training was imparted to 24131 workers in 39 jute mills for sustainable human resource development. Under schemes for assisting NGOs and Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs) in developing jute diversified products, 57 NGOs in 428 clusters involving 2106 Women Self Help Groups in 121 districts of 19 States benefitted 28,170 artisans. Moreover, 1971 training programmes benefiting 37750 artisans were organized and 828 JDP-SHG units were setup. The setting up of 4 Jute Parks including one in North Eastern Region has been set up. 25% of the targeted units in these parks have already been started production. 27 manufacturing units are now in operation in these 4 parks.

The financial progress of the Mini Mission-III as on 31.03.2014 is as under:

(Rs. in crore)				
	SCHEMES	Mission Allocation Original (2006-11)	2006-13 (Revised Allocation approved in 10 th Empowered Committee meeting)	Actual since inception till 31.03.2014
6.1	Training of Workers & Supervisors	4.00	5.50	4.50
6.2	Machinery Development	28.00	28.00	23.09
6.3	Productivity Improvement & TQM Facilitation	5.00	8.00	6.39
6.4	Acquisition of Machinery and Plant (Capital subsidy)	82.00	90.00	99.71
7.1	Design and Development of JDP	14.00	14.00	11.22
7.2	For helping the NGOs and WSHGs	30.00	14.00	13.57
7.3	Promotion of Jute Diversification:	32.00	28.52	25.71
7.4	Commercialization of Technology	5.00	1.00	0.09
7.5	Jute Parks for the Diversified sector	60.00	35.54	31.49
	Monitoring & Admn Exp		9.46	8.15
	Total Mini Mission-IV (Schemes)	260.00	234.02	223.92

(Data Source: Jute Section, Updated on 06-01-2015)