

Provision of Good Quality Seeds to Jute Farmers

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In an effort to improve production and productivity of raw Jute in the country, the Ministry of Textiles will make available certified jute seeds to the farmers through the Jute Corporation of India (JCI). **National Seeds Corporation (NSC), a CPSE under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare would be ensuring delivery of these quality certified seeds to the JCI.**

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The MoU will ensure distribution of certified jute seeds through JCI in the year 2021-2022. There is a special provision for jute and jute textile products in the **National Technical Textiles Mission** which was announced this year. There is immense potential for increasing the use of jute in lining of water bodies, road building and construction of structures to contain landslides in hilly areas. In addition to becoming self-reliant in the requirement of jute for the domestic market, the next target is to **strengthen the export potential** of the country in jute and its products.

As an outcome of the MoU, JCI will **distribute 10,000 Quintals of certified jute seeds of JR0-204 variety in the 2021-22 crop year.** Certified seeds from National Seed Corporation (NSC) will be purchased by JCI for this first ever commercial distribution operation. 5-6 lakh farm families will be benefited and the **spurious seed market will be reduced drastically**, while augmenting the revenue of JCI. The increase in productivity will enhance the income of the farmers and will go a long way in reaching the target of doubling the farmers' income by 2022.

The three agencies in the field – the Jute Corporation of

India (JCI), National Jute Board (NJB) and Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (CRIJAF) are promoting modern agronomic practices for overall improvement of quantity and quality of jute under the **jute project ICARE**. The quality of raw jute produced has been adversely affected over the years due to low quality seeds and/ or spurious seeds. This MoU will ensure that jute farmers are able to get the best quality seeds meeting the demands of the varying agro-climate conditions and intensive cropping system.