

Jute Market Report for April 2025

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2nd May 2025

Bangladesh

Raw Jute: During the month under review, raw jute demand from India as well as from Pakistan and Nepal remained stable. Indian buyers were actively in the market for BTR NB KS, BTR NB CS, BTR NB BS, BTR CS, BTR BS, and SMR, as well as jute cuttings like BTCA and BTCB, and placed orders in the range of 4.500 to 5.000 mtons.

Pakistan placed orders of about 2.000 mtons of all grades of Long Tossa Jute and Long Meshta fibre, as well as Tossa cuttings BTCA and BTCB and Meshta cuttings OMC.

Other international buyers from importing countries such as China, Vietnam, Tunisia and countries in Europe were in the market but did not place bigger orders during the month under review in view of rising market prices.

During the month under review, local jute yarn and twine spinning mills as well as composite jute mills and raw jute processing units were actively in the market to cover their requirements.

In response to both international and local demand, the supply of raw jute and kenaf fibres in the local markets remained limited. As a result, raw jute prices continued to show an upward trend.

Export prices: As the end of the season approaches and fibres of higher qualities become increasingly scarce, export prices for raw jute of higher grades increased by about USD 50,00-60,00 per mtons during the month under review. Export prices of lower grades also increased, by about USD 30,00 per mtons.

Raw jute exports from July to November 2024 amounted to 326.777 bales against 418.713 bales during the same period in 2023.

New Crop: Although sowing of Meshta and White Jute in lowland areas such as Greater Mymensingh, Tangail, Sirjganj, Netrokona, Madaripur and Sariatpur started in March, it is still not yet completed. The country has been facing a drought for the past 20 to 25 days, making proper sowing nearly impossible for many farmers. As a result, numerous farmers had to rely on local water pumps to continue planting. However, the lack of rainfall, combined with an ongoing heatwave, has led to desiccation of the plants in certain regions and slowed plant growth overall.

Due to these adverse weather conditions, the sowing of Tossa Jute was delayed and could only begin in areas where irrigation facilities are available.

Weather: During the first half of the month under review, the entire country enjoyed sunshine, interspersed with moderate rainfall, which is beneficial for White Jute and Meshta sowings. However, by the end of the month, most of the jute-growing areas faced less favorable conditions, with high temperatures and a lack of rainfall.

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Jute Yarn and Twine: Export demand for jute yarns and twines of both higher and lower grades from regular importing countries like Turkey and Iran increased during the month under review. Same applies for demand from India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Uzbekistan, countries of the Middle East and Europe, and the USA.

Local demand for both Sacking and Hessian quality jute yarns and twines for packaging purposes continued to remain stable during the month under review.

During the month under review export prices for both high and low quality of jute yarn and twine increased by about USD 40,00 to 80,00 per mton.

In view of increasing demand from international as well as local markets, both medium sized and larger mills operated more or less in full swing, running on two to three shifts per day, according to their confirmed orders.

Jute Goods: During the month under review, export demand for sackings from buyers in African and Middle Eastern countries increased compared to previous months. Demand for hessians from markets such as Europe, Australia, and the USA remained steady.

India maintained a steady demand for unstitched Binola and B-Twill fabrics.

Demand for Jute CBC (Carpet Backing Cloth) from major importing countries such as Europe, UK, New Zealand and Japan also remained stable during the month.

Local demand for hessians and sackings for packaging purposes increased noticeably during the month under review.

During the month under review, export prices developed as follows:

Hessians:	increased by approx. 1-2 %
Sacking:	increased by approx. 5 %
CBC:	increased by approx. 2 %

Miscellaneous: The Financial Express reported on April 20, 2025 that Faridpur jute farmers fear losses as adverse weather pushes up cultivation costs.

« Once dubbed the "golden fibre" of Bangladesh, jute is increasingly becoming a source of concern for farmers in Faridpur due to soaring production costs and stagnant market prices.

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Farmers in the district, which leads the country in jute production, say this year's expenses have surged by at least 30 percent, mainly due to adverse weather and a sharp increase in the prices of necessary inputs and labour.

In the previous season, a maund (approximately 37.3kg) of jute fetched between Tk 2,500 and Tk 2,800 at the farmer level. But, with production costs equalling or even exceeding this amount, growers barely broke even.

The hope for a profitable harvest remained out of reach, leaving many disheartened.

Now, with the onset of the jute season, farmers across the upazilas of Saltha, Nagarkanda, Boalmari and Bhanga are toiling in the fields once more-sowing seeds and irrigating lands that only recently yielded onions and other winter crops. Yet, the prevailing mood is one of visible anxiety and uncertainty.

According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), the target for jute cultivation in Faridpur this season is set at 86,525 hectares. But, a prolonged dry spell, worsened by erratic climate conditions, has made irrigation more difficult and costly than ever before. The falling groundwater table has forced farmers to run irrigation pumps longer and more frequently-tripling their water costs in many cases.

"Some pumps can't even draw enough water anymore," said a group of jute farmers working in Dadur Bill of Boalmari upazila. "Our expenses are rising every day, from irrigation to fertilisers, pesticides and daily labour. It's becoming unsustainable."

On a recent visit to the jute fields across the aforementioned upazilas, farmers were seen engaged in various stages of cultivation-watering fields, sowing seeds, and clearing weeds. But in nearly every field, the farmers' faces bore signs of frustration and concern.

Ashutosh Malo, Faruk Jossen, and Moniruzzaman-jute farmers from Ghoshpur union-echoed a common sentiment: although the cost of production has surged, the price of jute has not kept pace. "We've been in financial distress for years now. Unless there's government intervention to control input prices and ensure fair selling rates, we won't survive."

Shahaduzzaman, Deputy Director of the DAE in Faridpur, acknowledged the increased cost of production this season. "Climate change and erratic weather patterns are major contributors to rising expenses," he said. »

Source: The Financial Express

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India

Raw Jute: The ruling market prices quoted by the Jute Balers Association (JBA) end of last month were fixed as follows: TD-4 IRs 7.325 and TD-5 IRs 6.825 per 100 kgs, representing a sharp increase of raw jute prices. The Indian government has announced a 6% increase in the MSP for jute for the new season well in advance of the sowing season. This shows that Govt. is keen to support and encourage raw jute cultivation, farmers and labourers. Minimum support price for season 2025-26 will accordingly be ruling around IRs 5.650 per 100kg.

Local supplies of raw jute to Indian jute mills were ruling around 530.000 bales during the month of March (against 500.000 bales in February). At the end of March, raw jute stock with jute mills were 887.000 bales. In view of a heightened level of consumption, there has been a decline in the available inventory with the mills, notwithstanding increased deliveries to said mills.

Crop: The market fears that some farmers that may switch to alternate, more rewarding crops. In case this will happen, the earlier expected area to be brought under cultivation in season 2024/25 may be less than the earlier reported 600.000 hectares. These 600.000 hectares already represent a decline of about 15 per cent in comparison with season 2023/24. The carry forward continues to be estimated with 3 to 3,5 Mio bales. With this jute season approaching its end, the land area under cultivation, sowing and weather conditions will determine the price trend. Carry over of jute to next season should remain a leading factor as the jute crop 2025/26 is likely to be delayed at least by a month.

Weather: Rains during April were not sufficient but beneficial for soil preparation and sowing. The likelihood of northerly showers in the near future is also beneficial.

Jute Goods: Situation during the month under review presented itself as follows:

Prices for Hessians presented themselves almost unchanged at IRs 134,000 per mton at the time when this report was published. Selective mills are asking for premium of 3 per cent against prices quoted by „standard“ mills. Price of Sackings is prevailing at IRs 109.000 per mton with selective mills asking for premium of 4,5 per cent for exports against prices quoted by „standard“ mills.

B-Twills: The Indian government ordered around 250,000 bales of B-twill sacks during the month under review. Order volume for May is expected to be significantly lower at about 100,000 bales. However, with the continuing backlog, this quantity will keep mills fully busy for May 2025.

Orders for Jute Carpet Backing Cloth were slow and not consistent.

Jute goods production of IJMA jute mills and jute mills reporting to IJMA for January 2025 were 90.000 mtons in total of which 3.300 mtons were jute yarns/twines. Figures for February 2025 were not yet published when this report was prepared. ■