Report on visit to Gandhinagar in connection with JGT related works during attending Textile India 2017 event by P K Choudhury from 30.06.2017 to 02.07.17.

Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India organized the “Textiles India 2017” Mega event at Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 30/06/2017 to 02/07/2017 which was participated by about 1500 exhibitors and 20,000 visitors from India and abroad. NJB decided to participate in the event to showcase the activities being conducted by NJB including promotions of JGT. As desired by Secretary, NJB Sri P.K.Choudhury - Principal Technologist also actively participated in the programme. In the theme pavilion of NJB in the exhibition venue a model was set up showing the application of JGT which was witnessed by number of visitors. Few workshops on textiles including jute were also held during the programme.

In view of utilizing the time in befitting manner during his stay at Gandhinagar Sri Choudhury sought appointments with two Chief Engineers (CE) of the state for discussion towards promotion of JGT which was agreed upon by the concerned authority. Sri Choudhury visited Sri P R Patelia – CE, GSRRDA (Panchayat) and Addl. Secretary to the state Govt. at his office chamber in the 3rd floor, Block-14, New Sachivalaya, Sector-10A, Gandhinagar on 28th morning. As desired by the CE, Sri Choudhury gave a technical presentation on “Application of JGT in construction of rural roads” in presence of 16 senior engineers of the deptt. The presentation covered properties of JGT, its functional mechanism on improvement of soil behavior on application in the interface of sub-grade and sub-base along with some case studies. The Queries of the engineers regarding cost, source, technology of JGT and its mechanism in soil consolidation were addressed accordingly. All the participating engineers present including the CE appeared to be convinced on the performance of JGT. When requested by Sri Choudhury the CE informed that Gujarat is the 1st state in the country who has already completed construction of all the rural roads (total stretch of 1200 km) under PMGSY scheme. The CE further informed that they are going to take up construction of another stretch of 10,000 km rural road under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojona (MMGSY) where a considerable amount of road with low CBR value would be earmarked to construct by the deptt. using JGT under the technical support and guidance of NJB.

After the aforesaid meeting Sri Choudhury also met Sri Vivek P. Kapadia-CE & Addl. Secretary, Narmada water Resources, Govt. of Gujarat at his chamber in Block No-9, New Sachivalaya, who has already used JGT with the technical support of NJB in Narmada canal with success, with a request to further use of JGT for canal protection work. Sri Kapadia assured to use JGT in slope protection work for a stretch of 8 km at Sujalang - Sufalang canal connecting Mahi river to North Gujarat and also in some vulnerable stretches of Viswamitra river. As enquired by the CE it was assured that NJB will provide all sorts of support and guidance for use of JGT by the Govt. of Gujarat.

Technical documents including manual on JGT were also given to both the CEs for their study and reference.