

Statement

Type of Legal Aid	Scheduled caste	Scheduled Tribe	General Category
Legal Aid	8187	7341	11373
Legal Advice	24974	19622	31245
Legal Assistance	6066	6263	5974

Coir Industry of Kerala

3264. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Coir industry in Kerala has been passing through a serious crisis due to fall in exports and sluggishness in the internal market;

(b) whether Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala or from any other parties concerned with this; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take or have taken to save the industry from peril ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c). The Coir Industry in Kerala has been passing through a difficult period mainly on account of the impact of drought in the earlier years, coconut wilt disease and decline in exports due to competition from synthetic substitutes and recession in the West Europe.

A number of steps have been taken to overcome some of these problems which, among other things, include :

1. Kerala Government has liberalised the restriction on the movement of husk so that the husk moves from surplus areas to deficit areas;
2. The Coir Board has developed a technique for reducing the retting period by crushing the husk before

soaking and financial assistance for the purchase of crushers for this purpose is now available under the centrally sponsored scheme for the cooperativisation of the coir industry;

3. Cash compensatory support for coir products exported has been extended upto 31.12.1985;
4. Trade delegations visited important potential markets in the European countries;
5. A work-shop on coir was organised recently by the Coir Board under the Indo-EEC Trade Promotion Programme in which delegates representing major importing countries also participated and discussed various problems relating to export;
6. The Coir Board is participating in important Fairs/Exhibitions in and abroad to popularise coir and coir products; and
7. The Coir Board is running 17 show-rooms in various parts of the country to popularise the coir products and the sales of these show-rooms have been rising from year to year.

Payment of wages to telephone operators

3265. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great difference between the wages paid to regular telephone