

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5878
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
PROMOTING COIR INDUSTRIES
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the scope of promoting coir industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken to promote coir industries in the country particularly in Orissa?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): Steps taken to promote the coir industry in the traditional coir-producing States, viz., Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and also non-traditional States and Union Territories like Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Goa, Maharashtra, Assam, Tripura, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep, West Bengal and Jharkhand include (i) extension of financial assistance for setting up new coir units and renovation of the existing units, (ii) conducting entrepreneur development programmes and quality improvement programmes for entrepreneurs, (iii) organising exposure tour of entrepreneurs to traditional coir producing areas to acquaint them with the latest developments, (iv) technical assistance in setting up coir units, (v) field demonstration on applications of latest technology, etc.

Some of the steps taken for development of coir industry in Orissa are :

- (i) Establishment of a Regional Office at Bhubaneswar in 2004.
- (ii) Setting up a testing laboratory for testing quality of coir fibre, pith, etc. during 2004.
- (iii) Training programmes for artisans.
- (iv) Distribution of motorized ratts/motorized traditional ratts to 321 artisans at 75% subsidised rate, at an expenditure of Rs. 31.48 lakh during 1.4.1994 to 31.3.2004.