

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:681
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
RESEARCH IN AGRO PRODUCTS
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Government owned and private institutes are involved in research work for enhancing the quality and production of agro products in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such institutes engaged in agro research in the country as on date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. In order to remove the drudgery of artisans and enhancing the productivity and quality of products, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), a statutory body under this Ministry, is engaged in research and development (R & D) through in-house research as well as by sponsoring the R & D projects to reputed organizations. Under this programme, KVIC established interfaces with 14 national level R & D institutes, laboratories, etc, and 2 departmental institutes of KVIC, and 'Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Industrialization' (MGIRI), Wardha; an autonomous organization set up by the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises). Besides, assistance is also extended by KVIC to establish in-house laboratories by the implementing agencies. Equal attention is also given by KVIC for better invention and technology input in order to make the production operation easy and enhance the productivity of beneficiaries. Continuous efforts are made by KVIC for providing improved tools and implements to artisans, upgradation of technology, quality control, and design through co-ordinated efforts with professional agencies.

Similarly, Coir Board, another Statutory body of this Ministry, has promoted 2 research institutes, namely, Central Coir Research Institute (CCRI), Kalavoor, Alleppey; and Central Institute of Coir Technology (CICT), Bangaluru for undertaking research activities on different aspects of coir industry.