

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2395

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011

SHORTAGE OF COIR-FIBRE AND RAW MATERIALS

Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) the number of coir industries functioning in the country as on date including TamilNadu and Kerala, State-wise;
- (b) whether the coir industries are in crisis due to shortage of coir- fibre and essential raw materials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to develop coir industries in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER, MICRO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES(SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH)

(a) Coir industrial establishments functioning in the country are registered under Coir Industry (Registration) Rules 2008 for statistical purpose. State-wise details of 14950 coir units registered in the country including Tamil Nadu and Kerala as on 31.03.2010 are given in the Table below:

Sl.No. State      Number of units

|       |                                   |       |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1     | Kerala                            | 9549  |
| 2     | Tamil Nadu                        | 3379  |
| 3     | Orissa                            | 675   |
| 4     | Andhra Pradesh                    | 662   |
| 5     | Karnataka                         | 487   |
| 6     | West Bengal                       | 40    |
| 7     | Pondicherry                       | 30    |
| 8     | Maharashtra                       | 20    |
| 9     | Assam                             | 20    |
| 10    | Delhi                             | 17    |
| 11    | Uttar Pradesh                     | 17    |
| 12    | Union Territory of<br>Lakshadweep | 16    |
| 13    | North Eastern Region              | 15    |
| 14    | Punjab                            | 5     |
| 15    | Rajasthan                         | 4     |
| 16    | Goa                               | 3     |
| 17    | Madhya Pradesh                    | 3     |
| 18    | Haryana                           | 2     |
| 19    | Jammu & Kashmir                   | 2     |
| 20    | Tripura                           | 2     |
| 21    | Gujarat                           | 1     |
| 22    | Andaman & Nicobar                 | 1     |
| Total |                                   | 14950 |

(b) & (c) Though there are reports of seasonal shortage of coir fibre in the coir product manufacturing sector of Alleppey in the State of Kerala due to increase in the export of coir fibre to China essentially from Tamil Nadu, there is no crisis on account of the same. The Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu have been working in close coordination with Coir Board to tide over the seasonal shortage through appropriate remedial action.

The number of fibre extraction units has increased, particularly in the state of Tamil Nadu due to the various interventions provided by Coir Board and Govt. of Tamil Nadu for the development of coir industry in the State. Due to this increase in the number of new fibre extraction units in Tamil Nadu, inter alia, the demand for coconut husks, the basic raw material, has increased leading to a corresponding increase in the price of coconut husks.

(d) & (e) The Government of India in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is implementing various programmes through Coir Board, a statutory body under the administrative control of this Ministry, for development of coir industry in the country through research and development, trainings in coir processing/value addition, Quality Improvement Programmes, Entrepreneurship Development Programmes, extending financial assistance for setting up new units and modernization of existing units, assisting in development of domestic as well as export markets besides setting up of coir clusters, etc.