

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:595
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012
COIR INDUSTRIES
Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) whether coir industry in the country is facing problem of shortage of coir fibre;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the traditional markets for coir exports are stagnating and share of value added products are declining, while this sector is facing with rising input costs for labour transport, power etc.;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether it is proposed to bring this sector under the purview of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): At present the coir industry in the country is not facing any shortage of coir fibre.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c)&(d): While exports of non-traditional coir products have increased over the last 5 years, the exports of traditional products have gone down. Details are given below

YEAR	NON-TRADITIONAL		TRADITIONAL	
	QUANTITY (M.T.)	VALUE (RS. LAKH)	QUANTITY (M.T.)	VALUE (RS. LAKH)
2006-2007	111792.67	27232.30	56962.07	33284.29
2007-2008	134678.19	30167.61	52888.55	29120.47
2008-2009	156233.85	36585.19	43691.08	27412.24
2009-2010	249793.02	50879.42	44715.03	29525.80
2010-2011	283820.20	54338.28	37195.82	26368.80

The Government through the Coir Board is undertaking various programmes for the holistic development of both non-traditional and traditional coir products. Efforts for export promotion include technological upliftment through Science & Technology programmes and through the scheme for Skill Development and Rejuvenation, Modernisation and Technological Upgradation (REMOT), in addition to participation in international fairs and events.

- (e)&(f): Schedule I of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 contains the minimum features of a rural employment

guarantee scheme; the coir industry does not appear in the list of works on which the Scheme shall focus. As of now there is no proposal in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to take up the matter of inclusion of coir industry in Schedule I of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.