

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:494
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR COIR INDUSTRY
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Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any programme on research and development of new technology for the coir industry and on improvement of coir market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including total expenditure incurred on research and development of the coir market and the total number of such studies the Government has funded in the last three years along with the recommendations that have been presented in such studies, if any;
- (c) the current percentage of women beneficiaries in such schemes;
- (d) whether the participation of women has improved in the last three years and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on modernisation and upgradation of technology in the coir industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The areas of research and development of coir industry includes the following:-

- (1) Research on various aspects of coir industry covering development of improved methods of extraction of coir were carried out.
- (2) Processing of coir fibre and yarn, process improvement, product betterment/diversification, identification of prospective new areas for potential utilisation of coir, coir waste and coconut pith etc.
- (3) Formulation of standards for different coir products.
- (4) Preparation of project schemes for coir extraction and processing, evolving projects for manufacture of mats and mattings on modern systems and organising improved dyeing facilities.
- (5) Development of new product lines, technical consultancy and field extension services.

Some new technologies implemented as part of research and development for the coir industry includes the following:-

- (1) Designed and fabricated mobile fibre extraction machine.
- (2) Coir Board developed a technology for treating green husk fibre and dry husk fibre using a bio solution " Fibre Magic" in a cost effective way within 12 hours.
- (3) Introduced motorized ratt which paved way for removing drudgery, increased earning of workers and generation of employment. Introduced electronically operated ratt which is very compact and efficient for spinning coir yarn.
- (4) In the weaving sector, semi automatic loom was introduced. A fully automatic power-loom was introduced for more productivity. Designed and fabricated an ordinary and pneumatically operated loom namely, 'Anugraha' for weaving coir geo textiles. Developed a versatile 'Anupam' loom which is able to weave all types of mats, matting, carpets, and geo-textiles.
- (5) Coir Wood was developed using coir as reinforcing material.

Some technologies developed for the development of coir market includes Automatic Spinning Machine, Geotextiles and Coir Composites.

The expenditure incurred for research and development activities during last three years:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
2011-12	254.85

2012-13 277.97
2013-14 650.64
2014-15 (upto 21.11.14) 252.93

(c): Coir industry is a traditional industry engaging more than 7.10 lakh workers, out of which 80% are women. Hence it is estimated that around 5.5 lakh women are engaged in this industry.

(d): The women artisans trained are engaged by coir industries established under the schemes – Development of Production Infrastructure, Mahila Coir Yojana (MCY), Rejuvenation, Modernization and Technology Upgradation (REMOT), Scheme for Funding for Regeneration of Traditional Industry (SFURTI) schemes etc.

The details of training and fund utilized under Mahila Coir Yojana during the last three years is as follows:

Sl. no.	Year	Achievement (Rs.in lakhs)	(in nos.)	Financial
1	2011-12	7750	193.73	
2	2012-13	8386	209.66	
3	2013-14	8086	202.17	

(e): During the last three years and upto 31.10.2014 an amount of Rs. 17.96 crores has been incurred by the board for the modernization and technology in coir industry as detailed below. Funds utilized (Rs. in crores)

2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
2.05	7.92	6.09	1.90

(as on 31.10.14)