

/font>

Title: Need to provide financial assistance for setting up coir pith cake units in Krishnagiri Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI V. VETRISSELVAN (KRISHNAGIRI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my Krishnagiri constituency, coconut growing is the main agricultural activity. There are about 150 coir fibre industries in my constituency. After removing the coir from coconut for mattress and other purposes, we receive dust of the coir which is known as coir pith. This pith is used in large scale for heating purpose, catering to the need of water for various plants being kept inside the houses and it is also mixed with fertilisers to increase fertility of the soil. Since coir pith cakes can be used in many ways, its demand in the global market has increased.

Keeping in view the increasing demand of coir pith cake in foreign countries, many people of my constituency desire to come forward to start coir pith units. There are no coir pith cake units in my constituency. For establishing such units, people need the Government support by way of several subsidies, financial assistance and basic infrastructure.

Sir, the entire area of my constituency is the most backward area in the State of Tamil Nadu and about 20,000 young educated unemployed are living in this area. By establishing the coir pith cake units in this area, more job opportunities can be created for those unemployed youth of this backward area. So, I request the Government to provide the facility of subsidy and financial assistance to establish coir pith cake units along with the provision of free electricity keeping in view the vast usage of coir pith cake and its demand in the global market.

---