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Title : Need to provide Coir fibre in sufficient quantity and at reasonable price to Coir industry in Kerala.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): The rising export of coir fibre from Tamil Nadu to China has adversely affected the coir sector for the last few months. Kerala has a major role in the manufacture of coir products and more than half million poor people are working in this sector. Most of them belong to BPL families and women are a major part of it. The unavailability of coir fibre and meteoric rise of its price brings the industry to a pitiable condition. The coir fibre export from the main markets of Tamil Nadu has increased to more than four-folds during the current year. In this year, the export reached nearly 28,000 tonnes. Due to the scarcity of coir fibre, small scale industrialists and coir factories of Kerala are suffering very much. Uncontrolled export leads to price hike of coir fibre and shortage. ...(*Interruptions*)

**14.04 hrs.**

*Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and some other hon'ble Members*

*then left the House*

The lack of availability of fibre have adversely affected the large number of people in the coir sector and unemployment and starvation are haunting the labourers. So, the Union Government should promptly intervene in the matter to control the export and export duty should be increased for coir fibre. Also, the Government should give necessary instructions to the concerned States to ensure sufficient supply of coir fibre to the labourers, which is a livelihood of more than five lakh people, who are living in poor conditions. In order to meet the demand of industrialists and small-scale manufacturers, the concerned Ministries of Union Government should intervene in the matter and give directions to shape a project with the association of Kerala Government and Coir Board....(*Interruptions*)

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