

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2653
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

CHALLENGES UNDER THE WOMEN COIR SCHEME IN KONKAN REGION

2653. SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that despite coconut abundance in the Konkan-Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and Raigad—region of Maharashtra, the income of women artisans is being adversely affected due to low participation, limited coverage and inadequate technological upgradation under the Mahila Coir Yojana;
- (b) if so, the district-wise number of beneficiaries, financial assistance provided and mechanized equipment sanctioned/provided during the last five years;
- (c) whether any assessment has been conducted regarding regional disparities related to training, awareness, availability of raw materials, market linkages and mechanization; and
- (d) the timebound steps taken or proposed to enhance the outreach of the scheme, technical support and women's participation in the Konkan region?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (d): The Coir Board, a statutory body under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, is mandated for the development and growth of coir industry in India including in the State of Maharashtra through technology upgradation, skill development and market promotion activities. Under Coir Vikas Yojana, training and stipend is provided to women artisans focusing on coir yarn spinning, product development and other value-added activities to enhance employability and livelihood opportunities through the Mahila Coir Yojana.

The details of district wise beneficiaries and financial assistance provided under Mahila Coir Yojana in the Konkan region of Maharashtra during the last five years i.e from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 are at **Annexure-I**.

Internal assessments and third party evaluation studies are conducted from time to time by the Ministry of MSME to assess the salient aspects and impact of the Coir Vikas Yojana Scheme.

The various initiatives taken to enhance the outreach of the scheme, technical support and women's participation under the Coir Vikas Yojana are as below:

- i. Development and dissemination of improved technologies, processes and value-added coir products
- ii. Skill training under Mahila Coir Yojana for women focusing on coir yarn spinning, product development and other value-added activities to enhance employability and livelihood opportunities.
- iii. Promotion of domestic and export markets through participation in domestic and international exhibitions, market development assistance, exporter awareness programmes etc.
- iv. Awareness and promotional programmes to create awareness about coir technologies, entrepreneurial opportunities and schemes of the Coir Board.

Annexure I

Annexure I referred to in reply to Part (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2653 for reply on 16.03.2026.

Details of district wise beneficiaries and financial assistance provided under Mahila Coir Yojana in the Konkan region of Maharashtra during the last five years i.e from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 is given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Sindhudurg	Palghar	Kolhapur	Ratnagiri	Total	Total Financial assistance provided
		In nos.					
1.	2020-21	260	20	20	-	300	18.00
2.	2021-22	220	20	-	20	260	15.60
3.	2022-23	179	-	-	-	179	10.74
4.	2023-24	200	-	-	-	200	12.00
5.	2024-25	59	-	-	-	59	3.54
	Total	918	40	20	20	998	59.88