

2023



Coir and Coir based  
products sector

**INDUSTRY  
DATA  
BOOK**



MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES

# **Coir and Coir based products sector**

**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES**

## List of Contributors

01. Mr. A.H.M.U. Aruna Banadara - Director General
02. Miss. Samangika Abeysinghe - Acting Director
03. Mr. G.D.P. Munidasa - Acting Director
04. Miss. W.P. Kalyani - Deputy Director
05. Mr. B.A.K. Heshan - Statistician
06. Mr. P.A.N.C. Pathiraja - Development Officer
07. Mr. W.A.S.R. Jayawardhane - Development Officer

### **Statistics Unit**

### **Planning Division**

### **Ministry of Industries**

P.O.Box 570,73/1, Galle road, Colombo 03

Telephone : +94 11 2431342  
E-mail : plan\_unit@yahoo.com  
Website : www.industry.gov.lk

# Foreword

The 2023 Industrial Data Book represents our commitment to supporting industrialists as they face current economic challenges and strive for sustainable development through improved decision-making. This data book primarily concentrates on the statistical factors that impact economic growth, particularly focusing on export expansion.

The statistical analyses presented in this data book are based on comprehensive statistical data sourced from various institutions, including the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS), the Department of Customs (DoC), the Export Development Board (EDB) and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

Within this publication, you will find statistical references related to both exports and imports. This includes tables featuring productivity indicators derived from manufacturing establishments and the number of individuals employed in each sector, as well as statistics on key indicators of industrial activity spanning from 2016 to 2020. The data also covers the value of outputs and output components, intermediate consumption values, employment breakdowns by nature, economic indicators categorized by industry class, and import and export statistics.

I extend my gratitude to Mr. Aruna Bandara, Director General of the Planning Division at the Ministry of Industries, and his dedicated team for their unwavering support throughout this project. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. Kavishka Heshan, Statistician at the Ministry of Industries, and his team members, Mr. Nirosch Chathuranga Pathiraja and Mr. Shamith Rashmika Jayawardane, for their remarkable dedication and collaborative efforts with the DCS, which helped make this data book a reality.

I firmly believe that the 2023 Industrial Data Book will play a crucial role in shedding light on current and future productivity and economic growth trends within the industrial sectors. It has the potential to significantly influence policymaking in the industry sectors and will be valuable to a wide range of data consumers, including policymakers, economic planners, academics, researchers and other interested parties in the future.

**J.M. Thilaka Jayasundara**  
*Secretary*  
*Ministry of Industries*

# Content

	<b>Page No :</b>
Overview	01
Tables of Data	02 - 05

## List of Tables

Table 1.	Coir and Coir based Products Imports (2020-2022)	02
Table 2.	Coir and Coir based Products Exports (2020-2022)	03

# Overview

Sri Lanka is one of the leading global suppliers of coir fiber and coir-based products, with a well-established industry contributing significantly to the country's export earnings. The sector primarily focuses on value-added products such as coir fiber, coir yarn, coco peat, coir mats, brushes, and coir-based geotextiles. The industry is mainly export-oriented, with strong demand from markets like the USA, European Union, India, and China.

## Production and Processing

- Sri Lanka has abundant coconut plantations, which provide a steady supply of raw coconut husks for the coir industry.
- The sector includes small and medium enterprises (SMEs) alongside large-scale manufacturers.
- The production process involves fiber extraction, drying, spinning, weaving, and conversion into various products.

## Export Performance (2022)

According to available data, Sri Lanka's coir and coir-based exports performed well despite global economic challenges.

## Key Export Products & Revenue

1. Coir Fiber – Major export item used in brushes, mattresses, and geotextiles.
2. Coco Peat (Coir Pith) – Primarily used in horticulture as a soil substitute.
3. Coir Twine & Yarn – Used for ropes and industrial applications.
4. Coir Mats & Carpets – Exported mainly to Europe and North America.
5. Coir Geotextiles – Gaining popularity for soil erosion control.

## Export Statistics (2022)

- Total Export Value: USD 150-170 million (Estimated)
- Main Export Destinations: USA, Netherlands, Germany, UK, China, India

Top Exporting Companies: Large manufacturers and exporters such as Hayleys Fiber, Euro Substrates, and Coco Lanka.

## Imports Related to the Coir Industry (2022)

- Although Sri Lanka is a producer of coir, certain materials and machinery are imported:
- Machinery & Equipment: Fiber processing machines, weaving looms, and drying systems.
- Chemicals & Additives: Used for treatment and coloring of coir-based products.
- Packaging Materials: Some specialized materials are imported to meet international packaging standards.

## Import Statistics (2022)

- Total Import Value: USD 10-15 million (Estimated)
- Main Import Sources: India, China, Germany

## Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges:

- High production costs due to energy prices.
- Competition from India and Vietnam.
- Logistics and shipping costs affecting exports.

Opportunities:

- Growing demand for eco-friendly, biodegradable products.
- Expansion in the horticulture and geotextile markets.
- Potential for more value-added processing in Sri Lanka.

The coir industry remains a key part of Sri Lanka's agro-based exports, contributing significantly to foreign earnings. With strategic investment in value addition, innovation, and market diversification, the sector can further strengthen its global presence.

**Table 1: Coir and Coir based Products Imports (2020-2022)**

Description	Unit	2020		2021		2022	
		Qty	Value (Rs.)	Qty	Value (Rs.)	Qty	Value (Rs.)
<b>Twisted Fibre</b>							
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raw mattress fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raw mixed fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	-	-	6	2,234	-	-
Raw omatt fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	2	2,487	1	1,019	-	-
Other raw fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Bristle Fibre</b>							
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) not twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) bleached	Kg	-	-	-	-	2	272
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) dyed	Kg	-	-	1	1,000	-	-
Raw omatt fibre of coconut (coir) not twisted	Kg	-	-	14	22,078	-	-
<b>Mattress Fibre</b>							
Raw mattress fibre of coconut (coir) mixed with animal hair and not twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raw mattress fibre of coconut coir not twisted	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other raw of coconut (coir)	Kg	8	5,500	15	13,500	20	14,000
<b>Fibre Pith</b>							
Raw fibre pith of coconut (Raw format not processed)	Kg	-	-	6	500	34	217,015
<b>Moulded coir products</b>							
Moulded products of coconut (coir) for use in horticulture	Kg	7	5,542	21,041	3,512,855	10	14,253
Other, raw noils and waste of coconut (coir)	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other of coconut coir	Kg	8	9,000	6	5,000	1	1,000
Coir Yarn	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Geotextiles	Kg	12,196	34,413,753	5,764	19,246,123	-	-
Coir twine	Kg	8,348	9,038,580	178	824,264	138	1,039,563
Coir rope	Kg	3,328	617,702	416	2,369,670	371	8,669,935
Coir carpets & Rugs	Square Meters	33	19,718	5	1,300	-	-
Matts & Rugs	Square Meters	49,503	25,008,661	11,000	7,077,264	494	1,425,642
Other	Square Meters	559	821,062	61	29,748	23,320	6,815,359
Mattings	Square Meters	3,256	1,594,338	8,270	2,753,689	7,443	4,427,986
<b>Rubberized coir pads</b>							



Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses, below 60mm in thickness	No	24	519,045	10	170,414	82	142,376
Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses, below 60mm in thickness	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses for bedding, above 60mm in thickness	No	39	416,780	-	-	-	-
<b>Brooms &amp; Brushes</b>							
Brooms made of coconut fibre	No	1,057	74,810	104	104,070	13	47,363
Other brushes made of coconut fibre	No	484	375,784	378	387,436	17	27,668
Tawashi brushes							
Tawashi brushes made of 100% coconut fibre	No	4	2,000	1	2,934	3	4,000
Tawashi brushes made of coconut fibre mixed with other vegetable fibre	No	2	3,023	620	128,035	196	331,948
Tawashi brushes made of coir fibre mixed with artificial fibre	No	300	236,723	-	-	8	43,933
<b>Total</b>	<b>Kg</b>	<b>23,897</b>	<b>44,092,564</b>	<b>27,448</b>	<b>25,998,243</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>9,956,038</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Square Meters</b>	<b>53,351</b>	<b>27,443,779</b>	<b>19,336</b>	<b>9,862,001</b>	<b>31,257</b>	<b>12,668,987</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>1,628,165</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>792,889</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>597,288</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>73,164,508</b>		<b>36,653,133</b>		<b>23,222,313</b>

Source: Sri Lanka Customs

**Table 2: Coir and Coir based Products Exports (2020-2022)**

Description	Unit	2020		2021		2022	
		Qty	Value (Rs.)	Qty	Value (Rs.)	Qty	Value (Rs.)
<b>Twisted Fibre</b>							
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	411,039	25,644,590	71,000	4,794,464	87,037	29,292,866
Raw mattress fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	4,920,182	466,637,084	5,312,119	527,410,830	3,764,895	579,283,734
Raw mixed fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	12,262,549	638,988,154	12,671,283	799,753,744	9,088,729	910,997,904
Raw omatt fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	76,520	9,712,368	10,000	1,665,399	108,215	17,411,126
Other raw fibre of coconut (coir) twisted	Kg	377,000	31,604,369	474,880	41,335,331	343,000	49,887,728
<b>Bristle Fibre</b>							
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) not twisted	Kg	1,298,290	131,132,101	1,001,379	145,130,583	1,250,158	266,182,971



Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) bleached	Kg	1,234,339	219,798,263	1,045,044	285,118,749	947,960	464,531,675
Raw bristle fibre of coconut (coir) dyed	Kg	356,200	74,954,335	333,807	84,937,795	287,654	96,108,276
Raw omatt fibre of coconut (coir) not twisted	Kg	11,028,365	494,528,956	1,586,830	78,669,492	-	-
<b>Mattress Fibre</b>							
Raw mattress fibre of coconut (coir) mixed with animal hair and not twisted	Kg	20,000	896,592	-	-	44,500	3,048,491
Raw mattress fibre of coconut coir not twisted	Kg	68,007,813	3,049,621,431	69,447,606	3,568,614,491	68,905,172	4,877,145,077
Other raw of coconut (coir)	Kg	3,576,384	164,162,150	3,991,592	240,245,205	4,392,565	391,218,224
<b>Fibre Pith</b>							
Raw fibre pith of coconut (Raw format not processed)	Kg	38,526,379	1,782,192,487	40,893,698	2,198,102,498	31,761,603	2,471,401,153
<b>Moulded coir products</b>							
Moulded products of coconut (coir) for use in horticulture	Kg	269,687,902	24,879,783,804	320,622,803	34,266,690,717	288,927,260	55,024,264,590
Other, raw noils and waste of coconut (coir)	Kg	112,288	12,177,425	767,673	50,621,775	681,094	99,330,263
Other of coconut coir	Kg	2,719,936	234,343,805	3,448,847	398,844,947	2,756,376	500,209,620
Coir Yarn	Kg	992,588	152,050,851	1,109,427	185,280,578	975,707	231,268,905
Geotextiles	Kg	4,272,789	843,040,431	4,550,332	1,037,479,097	3,746,190	1,412,917,107
Coir twine	Kg	7,227,600	1,757,876,889	8,148,707	2,142,791,391	9,070,712	3,653,890,068
Coir rope	Kg	40,742	9,896,834	42,553	16,333,134	9,567	22,270,300
Coir carpets & Rugs	Square Meters	663	793,513	2,853	5,685,337	29,780	15,560,977
Matts & Rugs	Square Meters	315,499	293,690,615	376,366	356,081,392	349,121	447,905,326
Other	Square Meters	8,960	6,964,394	986	3,368,492	2,870	10,623,673
Mattings	Square Meters	2,913	4,219,601	5,897	3,860,600	1,778	2,611,966
<b>Rubberized coir pads</b>							
Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses, below 60mm in thickness	No	647,805	122,934,602	774,437	100,505,002	994,886	178,552,773
Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses, below 60mm in thickness	Kg	-	-	42,066	23,241,250	-	-

Unused rubberized coir pads for mattresses for bedding, above 60mm in thickness	No	15,891	61,155,729	15,838	71,086,097	12,361	78,953,603
<b>Brooms &amp; Brushes</b>							
Brooms made of coconut fibre	No	9,523,409	810,324,088	6,850,429	1,117,375,627	6,862,697	1,973,058,741
Other brushes made of coconut fibre	No	6,087,416	543,951,704	6,620,032	689,136,159	6,302,617	1,129,838,976
<b>Tawashi brushes</b>							
Tawashi brushes made of 100% coconut fibre	No	24,473,997	761,258,193	21,584,008	723,411,818	21,892,219	1,286,174,717
Tawashi brushes made of coconut fibre mixed with other vegetable fibre	No	150,000	1,400,250	510,240	5,329,823	168,936	27,135,387
Tawashi brushes made of coir fibre mixed with artificial fibre	No	254,844	7,766,415	330,460	12,215,597	320,571	21,284,714
<b>Total</b>	<b>Kg</b>	<b>427,148,903</b>	<b>34,979,042,919</b>	<b>475,571,645</b>	<b>46,097,061,470</b>	<b>427,148,393</b>	<b>71,100,660,078</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Square Meters</b>	<b>328,036</b>	<b>305,668,123</b>	<b>386,102</b>	<b>368,995,821</b>	<b>383,549</b>	<b>476,701,942</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>41,153,362</b>	<b>2,308,790,981</b>	<b>36,685,444</b>	<b>2,719,060,123</b>	<b>36,554,287</b>	<b>4,694,998,911</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>37,593,502,023</b>		<b>49,185,117,414</b>		<b>76,272,360,931</b>

Source: Sri Lanka Customs