

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1985  
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2002  
FALLING PRICES OF SILK  
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government are aware of the falling prices of Indian raw silk leading to the fall in the prices of cocoon affecting farmers of silk production areas;
- (b) if so, whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government for financial assistance to provide minimum support prices to silk growing farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Union Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to arrest the heavy import of China silk?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Silk Board (CSB) has received a request for financial assistance from the Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC) for purchase of mulberry cocoons at reasonable prices to mitigate the hardship faced by sericulture farmers. CSB has agreed to provide loan of Rs.1.50 crores to KSIC provisional to State Govt. guarantee.

(d) Government has been closely monitoring the imports of raw silk and silk fabrics, and the prices of cocoons and raw silk in the main domestic markets. Though quantity of imported raw silk has not gone beyond the estimated demand supply gap, in view of the increase in quantum over last year, the steadily declining prices, and its effect on the domestic market, Government has initiated investigations to ascertain if statutory provisions need to be invoked to raise tariff barriers.