

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2158
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
BAMBOO INDUSTRY
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to promote bamboo industry in the country in a big way to help the North Eastern Region and other backward regions to improve their economic status;
- (b) if so? the details thereof; and
- (c) the existing and new incentives proposed to be extended to this sector to withstand competition with other countries in the world?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a): Yes, Madam. Government of India are promoting bamboo industry in the country, especially to help north eastern states and other backward regions to improve their economic status.

(b): Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, are implementing National Mission on Bamboo Applications (NMBA) as a technology mission for providing Technology Development Assistance (TDA) for setting up bamboo processing units. This aims at ensuring higher employment generation for people of North East in the field of bamboo which is available in abundance in that region.

Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India, under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) are also implementing a project, sanctioned in October, 2010 to enhance competitiveness of bamboo industry for Upgradation of infrastructure facilities at Bamboo-based cluster, Guwahati (Assam) with a total cost of Rs. 60.66 crore, including central grant of Rs. 52.63 crore. This project is being implemented by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) 'M/s Bamboo Technology Park, Guwahati'. First installment of the grant amounting to Rs. 15.79 crore has been released and the SPV has achieved financial progress of Rs. 3,27 crore.

(c): To make the bamboo industry competitive, NMBA extends support to entrepreneurs for setting up bamboo manufacturing and processing units in the North East in the form of Technology Development Assistance (TDA), repayable at par over a period of five years up to 70% of the cost of project, limited to plant & machinery only.