

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4025

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012

SERICULTURE INDUSTRY

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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise schemes/financial assistance provided by the Government to promote silk producers/weavers in the country to improve their pitiable condition in the country;
- (b) whether the small merchant exporters of silk fabric have been adversely affected by reduction of import duty on raw silk yarn;
- (c) if so, whether the Government envisages any plan to compensate the small merchant exporters and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Central Silk Board (CSB) has taken initiative to address the problems of Southern Sericulture industry;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of sericulturists have been registered under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas in that region;
- (f) the steps taken by the CSB to develop newer varieties of mulberry silkworm/increase productivity, quality and profitability of sericulture silk products;
- (g) the details of schemes to promote the traditional textiles sector like Bandhani Sarees Industry in Gujarat and tussar culture Tussar Research and Training Institute, Ranchi, Jharkhand alongwith funds allocated/utilised for the purpose during the last three years; and
- (h) the details of proposals received from the State Governments for welfare of the silk weavers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a): Government of India, through the Central Silk Board (CSB), is implementing Centrally Sponsored Catalytic Development Programme (CDP), in collaboration with the Sericulture Departments in all States for development of sericulture and silk industry in the country. State-wise Schemes/Financial assistance provided by the Government under the CDP programme during the XI Plan period is at Annexure-1.

State-wise details of financial assistance provided for handloom weavers (including silk weavers) under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme and Marketing and Export Promotion Schemes during XI Plan is at Annexure-II

The Government has also approved a financial package, for waiver of loans of the handloom sector, called "Revival, Reforms and Restructuring Package for Handloom Sector" which also includes silk weavers, with a financial implication of Rs3884 Crores benefiting 15000 Cooperative Societies and 3 lakh landloom weavers.

In addition, Government has also approved an Rs2362 crores "Comprehensive Package for the Handloom Sector" for providing cheap credit under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme.

(b): The reduction of import duty on raw silk has helped the fabric manufacturers and entrepreneurs by making raw silk available at reasonable rate for conversion into value added products for exports. However, some merchant exporters and traders, trading the post export Duty Free Import Authorization (DFIA) scrip for export of silk fabrics, have been demanding compensation due to reduction of the premium of such scrip issues before the duty reduction on raw silk.

(c): There is no proposal to compensate such merchant exporters or traders of DFIA scrip.

(d) & (e): Yes, Central Silk Board has taken initiatives to address the problem of Southern Sericulture industry through the flagship Catalytic Development Programme (CDP). The programme helps the States and sericulturists in development and expansion of host plant, development of farm and post cocoon infrastructure, up-gradation of reeling and processing technologies, Enterprise Development Programme and provided support for extension activities. Financial assistance provided to the three Southern States under CDP during the last three years (2009-10 to 11-12) is as follows:

(Rs.in Lakhs)

CDP Funds provided to Southern States during the last 3 years

STATES 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 Total

Karnataka 2355.10 5754.42 4892.28 13001.80
Andhra Pradesh 1073.15 1526.54 1913.39 4513.08
Tamil Nadu 961.89 2204.84 1090.57 4257.30
TOTAL 4390.14 9485.80 7896.24 21772.18

Out of the above Southern sericulture states i.e. Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have availed Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) assistance for sericulture schemes during the last 3 three years (2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12). No. of beneficiaries covered under the RKVY scheme in these Southern Sericulture States is given below:

States No. of Beneficiaries covered

Karnataka 800
Tamil Nadu 3,040
TOTAL 3840

(f): Central Silk Board has three main Research and Development institutes for mulberry at Mysore (Karnataka), Berhampore (West Bengal) and Pampore (J&K) which are actively working on mulberry and silkworm crop improvement, production and protection. These institutes have taken up number of R&D efforts to increase productivity, quality and profitability of sericulture silk product. The details of action taken in this regard are at Annexure III.

(g): Govt. is implementing six generic schemes viz. Babasaheb Ambedakar Hastshilpa Vikas Yojna, Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme, Marketing Support Service Scheme, Research & Development Scheme, Human Resource Development Scheme and Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, for the promotion and development of Handicrafts Sector on all India basis, including for Bandhani Sarees Industry in Gujarat State.

Central Tasar Research & Training Institute (CTR&TI) at Ranchi is actively involved in implementing various research projects pertaining to host plant & silkworm improvement and crop production & protection. Apart from the basic and applied research projects, the institute also implements certain developmental schemes for the development of Tasar culture in the tropical and temperate region of India, including Post Cocoon Technology (PCT).

Funds allocated to Central Tasar Research & Training Institute (CTR&TI), Ranchi during the last three years for above purpose are as follows:-

Year Expenditure incurred by
CTR&TI, Ranchi (Rs.in Lakhs)

2009-10 2214.51
2010-11 2436.74
2011-12 3 254.31

(h): On the basis of proposals received from the State Governments, the following steps have been taken in the XI Plan for promoting traditional handloom sector and welfare of the weavers, including silk weavers:

610 handloom clusters have been sanctioned

Rs333.20 Crores have been released towards Marketing Incentives

2694 Marketing events were held

4693.06 Lakh Kg of yarn supplied to weavers through 788 yarn depots

18.97 Lakh Handloom Weavers, including silk weavers, have been enrolled under Health Insurance Scheme