

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6772
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
DEMAND OF GOLDEN SILK
Sarmah Shri Ram Prasad

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge demand of golden silk from foreign countries, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a number of golden Assam silk weavers are facing financial constraints, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government has taken any action for promotion of golden Assam silk in North-Eastern States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the said purpose during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (d): Muga Silk popularly known as Golden Silk, being an exquisite product, has demand within the country and abroad. A number of steps, as indicated below, have been taken for promotion of Muga as well as other varieties of silk in all the North Eastern States including Assam for production of quality silk as well as empowerment of women engaged in sericulture in particular:-

(i) Establishment of a Regional Office of Central Silk Board at Guwahati, Central Muga Research Institute, Ladoigarh (Jorhat), Regional Muga Research Station at Boko (Assam), Muga Silkworm Seed Organization in Guwahati with a network of one Muga Silkworm Seed Production Centre at Kaliabari and one P3 Unit at Hahim (both in Kamrup Districts), Regional Silk Technological Research Station, Khanapara, Guwahati and Muga Raw Material Bank (MRMB) at Sibsagar with 3 Sub-Depots, at Dhakukhana, Sualkuchi (Assam) & Coochbehar (W.B).

(ii) Support to handlooms weavers for work-shed, raw material, training, credit, marketing facilities, design and product development under National Handloom Development Programme.

(iii) North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) has been implemented for supporting various Textile related activities. Rs.66.67 crore has been approved for development of Muga silk in Assam.

Details of funds sanctioned to NE States during the last three years are given in Annexure.