

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 29, 1990/Bhadra 7,  
1912 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir,..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Yadu Nathji, Please sit down. I am not allowing you. You should not raise other matters during Question Hour. Please sit down.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*] | - | |

#### Lift Study on Export of Silk

283. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade had made any study regarding export of silk;

(b) if so, whether India's silk exports are

poised for a major exports break through in international markets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[*Translation* ]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRISHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has not conducted any study regarding export of silk. However an article titled "Silk Exports—Poised for a Quantum Jump" appeared in "Foreign Trade Review" in July/ September, 1989.

(b) and (c). The year wise export of silk goods during the Seventh Plan period was as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Export (in Rs./ Crore)</i>
1985-86	159.21
1986-87	200.00
1987-88	251.79
1988-89	327.92
1989-90	392.48

The above increasing trend of exports of silk goods is expected to continue and the

year wise export projections of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for the Eighth Plan period are as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Export (in Rs./ Crore)</i>
1990-91	480.00
1991-92	580.00
1992-93	700.00
1993-94	845.00
1994-95	1025.00

[*English* ]

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: As per the statement laid on the Table, the export of silk is aimed at from Rs. 480 crores to Rs. 1025 crores for the Eighth Plan period. When so much is the potential for earning foreign exchange in the silk sector, it is surprising that no survey has been done in this field. Without conducting such a survey, how did the Government come to the conclusion that so much is the export potential in silk goods? Will the hon. Minister at least now initiate action to conduct a survey?

[*Translation* ]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this connection I would like to say that about a year back, an article was published in a Magazine in which Prof. Jai Kumar of the Minister of Commerce had expressed his views on the export of silk. The business of the people engaged in silk sector can be expanded. Though a number of things mentioned in the article are not based on any survey yet they are correct. The hon. Member has said that there is a lot of employment potential in this industry. As per our targets, our silk export has increased from Rs. 5.2 crores to Rs. 400 crores during the last decade. And during the next five year plan, we intend to increase our export 2.5 times. Our Government have well planned strategy to achieve that end and for this purpose

we have also received assistance from the World Bank. We have been fully concentrating on the development of sericulture in traditional silk producing States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Bengal and Kashmir. We have also formulated schemes for the expansion of silk industry in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other States which the hon. Members have referred to. We know that we are lagging behind in the field of technology particularly for reeling and for this purpose our Research Centre at Mysore is working on the development of new technology. I hope that with the help of Japan and with the cooperation of our own people we would be able to achieve the target laid down in this regard whether it is in respect of our domestic requirements or our export performance. At present nothing can be said about the detailed plan but I would like to assure the hon. Member that we well planned strategy for that. It is true as has been said by Prof. Jai Kumar that no survey has been conducted in this regard but I believe that such a survey hardly makes any difference. We know that we have traditional expertise in the field of silk and tusser production but we would also like to introduce the modern technology particularly to deal with the problem of reeling.

[*English* ]

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Sir, as you are aware, the people of Tamil Nadu as well as Karnataka are engaged in silk manufacturing trade. And there is a gold thread, the manufacture of which requires a special expertise. Sir, this expertise is not available through out the country except Gujarat. The people of Gujarat are the monopolists in this manufacture of gold thread. Because of non-availability of this expertise to other silk weavers, they are put to a lot of inconvenience and are handicapped. Therefore, the people of Gujarat who are engaged in manufacturing the gold thread are exploiting the situation. Therefore, taking into consideration the above facts, will the hon. Minister initiate any step to set up such training institutes wherever these industries are predominantly available in India?

[*Translation* ]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon Member has brought a new problem to our notice but there are many other related problems in it I would certainly look into the problems of Gujarat and the difficulties faced by the weavers in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka as pointed out by the hon Member

SHRI BHAJAN LAL Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to take liberty to ask an identical question This year the cotton production in the country has been more than 200 lakh bales whereas the domestic consumption of cotton is 110 lakh bales Due to non-export of cotton, farmers are not getting remunerative prices of their produce Therefore, I would like to ask the hon Minister as to how much bales of cotton the Government propose to export during the current year so that the cotton growers may know that during the next season they are going to get this much rate of cotton

SHRI SHARAD YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, in this connection I would like to say that, at present I do not have upto date figures about it but it is true as has been stated by Shri Bhajan Lal that this year we have had more production than our estimate but even then we did not allow any fall in the price of cotton We have gone in for commercial purchase and I think we have also a record export performance of cotton to our credit this year Our export of cotton has never touched that mark in the past According to the latest report 135 lakhs bales of cotton have been produced in our country and in view of this level of production we can increase it further after meeting out domestic requirements As you know that our Textiles form one fourth of our export performance and it is for that reason that value added items are supplied, so we have to take precautionary measures in that regard But I admit as you have said that this time our cotton production has been more than our target According to the latest report that we have received, our cotton production during

the current year has been quite high and taking it into consideration we are considering whether we can increase our level of export of cotton

SHRI JANARADAN YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to Tell the hon Minister through you that Bihar has been producing silk and tusser from ancient times The first sericulture college in Asia is being run at Bhagalpur Silk and tusser is being produced in Nathnagar area of Bhagalpur, Katoriya, Santhal Pargana etc and weavers of these areas are producing silk cloth Will the hon Minister take steps to set up an export agency there to facilitate the weavers to export their products?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon Member has told about Bhagalpur I know that Bhagalpur has been a very big silk producing centre from even ancient times Besides Bhagalpur, there are such centres even in Varanasi Chandernagore and Champa There is a tusser Research Centre at Ranchi I admit that the decline in tusser production has also affected the tusser export We are looking into the reasons as to why the tusser production has been declining We have certain problems concerning the Department of forest and for that we are taking up the matter with the Department of Forest and Environment also We are also monitoring its Research Centre Regarding the problem stated by the hon Member, I do not think that there is any problem in respect of export of silk and tusser from Bhagalpur

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV A research centre should be set up for weavers

SHRI SHARAD YADAV The hon Member can discuss the matter with me separately as to which kind of Research Centre he wants there The Export Promotion Council is there As it is not related to the main question, the relevant information is not readily available with me to indicate whether any Research Centre is already working there or not Therefore, the hon Member can talk to me on this subject separately

**SHRI KASHIRAM CHHABILDAS RANA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now an hon. Member alleged that silk is used for manufacturing in Gujarat but through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that in Gujarat silk is used in brocade industry only. Raw material is available in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and silk manufacturing units have been set up in Gujarat. Our silk export has now increased from Rs. 50 crores to Rs. 400 crores but in temptation of export and foreign exchange earning, price of silk is going up and that is resulting in the closure of the manufacturing units. In this context I would, therefore, like to know whether only export will be promoted or any policy will also be formulated to make the silk available to meet our domestic requirements?

**SHRI SHARAD YADAV:** I have already stated that some other hon. Member might have complained about it. At least I have not said anything about it. I have said only this that both Gujarat and Tamil Nadu are the part of this country and there is no difference between the two. If the people of Gujarat help the people of Tamil Nadu or Karnataka, that would boost the trade of both the States. The hon. Member has said that in temptation of better export performance, we are not paying any attention to our domestic market. But that is not the fact. However we would maintain a balance between the two. Our export performance has not been that much, though we have raised our targets and silk has a rich export potential. As at present, in the matter of production of silk China stands at the top. Japan and other countries are also producing silk, but now ours is number two. We don't produce the best quality of silk know as mulberry silk. However, efforts are on to develop this quality of silk also. As I have said, maximum attention will be paid to silk research during the current five year plan period and there are World Bank aided schemes also for that purpose. In the entire country wherever the traditional silk grows, we shall have to concentrate on the enhancement of our production and new fields are also to be explored. The apprehension of the Hon'ble Member that we will be doing

something by avoiding the domestic market, is unfounded. Moreover, I would like to emphasise that we intend to strike a balance between the two.

**SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE:** Sir, I would like to ask a supplementary question in connection with the reply given by the Minister. Hon'ble Minister has himself admitted that China is at the top in respect of silk export. Japan comes next. Just now, he has stated that our country is trying to take the second place. It is obvious that in spite of having so many research centres India has not been able to take the second position. Is it not a fact that it is just because of non-production of quality goods that some of our export consignments have been rejected and returned by the countries to whom they had been sent? So, will the hon. Minister look into it that only quality goods are produced and only that brand is exported which is not returned by the importing countries, because it brings a bad name to the country? So, as per the existing position, our country in spite of a large number of its research centres, occupies only a third or fourth position. I would like to know whether research centres and agencies would be set up to keep a constant watch on the quality of products and certify the quality of consignments meant for export so that this country does not earn a bad name on that account and our exported items are not returned by the importing countries.

**SHRI SHARAD YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, I have already said that there is a big research centre in Mysore which is known as C.S.T.R.I. I agree with Mr. Pande that China is much ahead of us, both in respect of production and export of value-added items as well. As at present, our silk production stands at the level of 200 metric tonnes against our requirement of one thousand tonnes. Best quality sarees are produced in Benaras (Varanasi) and Chanderi. We prepare these sarees with the fine quality i.e. "A" grade quality of silk imported from China. I know that attention should have been paid to the same 40-45 years back, since it is a traditionally skilled craft and our workers have ex-

called in it I admit that ours is an extremely primitive system of reeling, right from the stage of production of fine quality silk Hence we should evolve such a technique as may replace the old one and may not create unemployment After minimising the reeling problems, we should modernise it in a fine manner to give a boost to this industry Moreover, no stone will be left unturned to overcome the existing difficulties For the next five years, we have laid down a target which is two and a half times of our present export performance because we intend to expand and streamline our programmes That is all I want to say

[*English*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH Sir, in West Bengal, Murshidabad district is one of the oldest centres of silk production There are also other districts like Nadia, Purulia and Bankura where silk is produced So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take appropriate action so that silk production increases in West Bengal as also quality silk is also produced from export purposes Secondly, Sir, a Research Centre needs to be established in the new areas in the Eastern Region also so that production of quality silk can be increased and exported to foreign countries

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV Mr Speaker, I agree with Shri Hannan Mollah We have provided lump sum amount for West Bengal during the current Five Year Plan The Hon'ble Member has made a mention of Murshidabad, which is situated in the alluvium of the Ganges, and is known for its high quality silk We have focussed our attention on Bengal for its expansion during the current five year plan You have said that there is no research centre in your region but you have one I don't remember the name of that centre We have an attractive scheme for the expansion of this Research Centre already functioning there and expansion of this Research Centre already functioning there and expansion of sericulture which remained

confined to Murshidabad We have envisaged the development of Bengal on the lines of Karnataka We propose to undertake it during the next plan In this connection, I will myself go to Bengal to have a detailed discussion on its with the State Government and to take all possible steps for the expansion of this programme

[*English*]

PROF N G RANGA Mr Speaker, Sir, Mr Pandey has already put the question and it has not been answered properly The most important thing also is the improvement in the quality of the raw material, cocoon and the worm behind it Now, what arrangements are being made in addition to what is going on there in Mysore in order to improve the research in that regard? Not one Institute, but a number of Institutes are needed Otherwise what happens is, the manufacturers of silk yarn and silk cloth are advised to go to Jammu in order to purchase the silk cocoon because their quality is much better Now what efforts are being made?

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, as regards all that esteemed Shri Ranga, has said here, I have already stated that it is not correct that the seed development by the Mysore Research Centre has been a marvellous achievement of that Centre In fact, this seed has not proved a success in the entire country However, we intend to carry it to our villages However the problem is not that much and we have to overcome all the difficulties that come our way We will take follow up action in respect of all that what has been said and suggested here We will not be lagging behind in making the optimum utilization of our capacity to develop and expand these things

[*English*]

DR THAMBI DURAI Mr Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt in what the Minister said We want good quality of silk in order to promote more exports and get good revenue

also. For that, we have to establish many research Institutes. I want to know. Whether these Institutes are concentrating in rural areas also to promote silk production. For example, you take Tamil Nadu. My district is a very backward district, Dharmapuri District, but it has a good climate to produce more silk. For that, some efforts are going on. But what they are doing is not sufficient. I want to know from the Minister whether this kind of Research Institute which is located in Mysore is making any efforts: otherwise, whether the Minister is interested to set up such an Institute in Dharmapuri District which can promote production of good silk and also earn more foreign exchange. I want to know this from the Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding all that the honourable member has said, I would like to say that Jammu and Kashmir had expertise in this and Kashmir was the largest silk producing and consuming State. Karnataka Government and Karnataka farmers and reeling workers and handloom weavers have excelled in that field. Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have done hard work to under-take the expansion of production of mulberry silk, they deserve our congratulations for the same. You have made a mention of it. It can be mentioned time and again. We have sufficient funds from the World Bank to go ahead with the expansion of this scheme during the current five-year plan. We intend to go ahead with it. I have no information regarding the district you have mentioned here. However, I will take into account all that what you have said and explore the possibilities of further expansion.

[*English*]

#### **Family Planning in Maharashtra**

\*284. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of persons

practising family planning is on the increase in Maharashtra and showed an upward trend during the year 1989-90 as compared to 1988-89;

(b) if so, the percentage fall in birth rate during the above period in the State; and

(c) the birth rate noticed during the last three years in the State?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **STATEMENT**

The estimated number and percentage of eligible couples protected by various family planning methods have shown an upward trend in Maharashtra except for the year 1987-88 when there was a marginal fall. The estimates of Birth Rate, according to Sample Registration System of Registrar General India, for 1989 and 1990 are likely to be available towards the end of 1990 and 1991 respectively. However, the estimates of Birth Rate for Maharashtra for the latest available three years are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Birth rate (per 1000 population)</i>
1986	30.1
1987	28.9
1988	29.4

[*English*]

DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know what is our target of birth rate control by the end of 2000 and how we are going to achieve.