

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:811
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2003
SILK PRODUCTION
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the rank of the country (India) in global silk production;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to improve silk production of various kinds to top among the silk producing countries in the World;
- (c) the various proposals mooted in that regard; and
- (d) the steps taken to implement these proposals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) India ranks second in world raw silk production.
- (b) to (d) The main programmes and plans being taken by Government to improve and expand silk production include:
 - (1) Research and Technological efforts of Central Silk Board for improving the qualitative and quantitative cocoon/raw silk production by evolution of more productive and stress tolerant breeds and hybrids of mulberry and non-mulberry varieties of food plant and silkworm, adoption of integrated eco-friendly approach for pest and disease management, upgradation of reeling and processing technologies in silk;
 - (2) Seed Support & Technical Assistance by the Central Silk Board to State Governments, farmers & reelers by maintenance of parent races and basic seed supply of commercial seed support and augmentation of grainage facilities for production of disease free high yielding and drought resistant seeds
 - (3) Central assistance to states through Centrally Sponsored & Central sector schemes to strengthen farm infrastructure, increase area under sericulture, upgrade reeling facilities, improve finishing processes, strengthen seed supply, cocoon & silk testing systems, in all four varieties of silk.
 - (4) Popularisation and transfer of technologies developed to the field through the States' extension machinery, training to the beneficiaries, organizing various awareness programmes, etc.;
 - (5) Under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) of the Ministry of Rural Development financial assistance is being provided to various States for implementation of sericulture projects of all varieties of silk with the technical assistance of CSB;
 - (6) Establishing vertical linkages between the raw silk producers and the industry; and
 - (7) Establishing quality certification systems for silkworm seeds, cocoons, yarn and fabric.