

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1580

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005

PRODUCTION OF SILK

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**Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Sericulture, a traditional industry of J&K has seen a steady decline since last several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote production and export of silk from Jammu & Kashmir?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Details of production of cocoon and raw silk for the last three years in the State of Jammu & Kashmir are given below :-

Year	Cocoon (MT)	Raw Silk (MT)
2002-03	848	100
2003-04	681	85
2004-05	716	90 (Provisional)

(Source : CSB and State Govt. of J & K)

It will be noted that there is an increase in both figures in 2004-05 over 2003-04.

(c) Apart from other programmes and schemes to increase the production and to improve the productivity of silk in the silk producing states including Jammu & Kashmir, Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles is also implementing a special package of assistance announced by the Prime Minister in May, 2002 for the development of infrastructure, silk and wool etc. in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. So far as sericulture is concerned, the details of amount released under this package during the last three years as the 90 % share of the Central Govt. are given below:-

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
2002-03	226.25
2003-04	178.49
200405	169.20

Major steps taken to promote exports from the country including the State of Jammu & Kashmir are given below:

- (i) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk enabling the manufacturers to produce export quality goods.
- (ii) A number of schemes like Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Duty Drawback, Duty Free Replenishment Certificate (DFRC) have been made available to exporters whereby the element of tax on the exported item is reimbursed to them.
- (iii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters.
- (iv) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like TexStyles India, publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc
- (v) For Technological up-gradation of the industry, loan at 5% point less than the applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.
- (vi) In the budget 2004-05, customs duty on import of silk processing machinery has been reduced by 5%, thus facilitating availability of machinery at lower prices

(vii) Central Silk Board provides subsidy to beneficiaries through State Governments under plan schemes. It also provides technology support and training to them for their skill upgradation. During the X plan period enhanced plan provision over the IX plan period has been made i.e. Rs. 450/- crores for development of Research & Technology and implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored programmes.