

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TEXTILES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2498  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005  
PROMOTION OF SERICULTURE  
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to promote sericulture especially Muga, Eri and other ethnic silk varieties of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote Jute and Jute products in Assam;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up offices/centres in Assam to develop silk, jute and textile sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TEXTILES ( SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Silk Board (CSB) and the State Sericulture Department, Government of Assam have taken several initiatives to strengthen the muga and eri silk industry in Assam which are the ethnic silks of Assam. The major steps taken in this regard are furnished below:

1. Catalytic Development Programme:

The CSB is implementing the Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) during the X Plan period in collaboration with different state Governments including Assam. Under the Catalytic Development Programme a provision of Rs 181.00 crores has been made for providing assistance to sericulture farmers/reelers in the form of subsidy / incentive to encourage them to adopt improved technology aiming towards improvement in quality and productivity. Based on the proposals received from the state of Assam, CSB has released Rs.119.03 lakhs, Rs.315.28 lakhs and 442.21 lakhs during the year 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

2. Rural Development Programmes for Development of Muga and Eri Silk in Assam:

Two special Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojagar Yojana (SGSY) projects were sanctioned by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and launched during the year 2000-01 in the state of Assam under the name "Sonali Sutha Prakalpa" at a total outlay of Rs 6.81 crores and Rs 2.91 crores for development of muga and eri silks respectively for three years. The department of Panchayat & Rural development, Government of Assam, is implementing these projects with the help of the Department of Sericulture, Government of Assam & CSB.

3. Development of Muga and Eri Silk industry in Bodoland Territorial Autonomous Districts, (BTAD) Kokrajhar:

A 10 years perspective plan has been drawn for the development of muga & eri silk industry in Bodoland Territorial Autonomous districts (BATD) in Assam in 3 phases to coincide with the plan periods. The first phase of the Project, drawn up for a cost of Rs.2,750.10 lakhs for implementation during the year 2005-06 to 2007-08 with CSB share of Rs.385.23 lakhs, under the CDP during the remaining period of the X Plan, was launched on 20th September, 2005. The CSB has released an amount of Rs.140.7 lakhs during the current year for the implementation of this project.

(c) Measures taken by the Government to promote jute and jute products in Assam are given at Annexure-I.

(d)&(e) As CSB has many units functioning for the development of all varieties of silk in Assam, new units are not proposed. However, the Government has proposed to set up North Eastern Regional Centre of India Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA) at Guwahati for development of Technology for Natural Fibres in NER States for creation of infrastructure for Research & Development activities there. For the purpose, the Government has released a sum of Rs.1.40 crores to IJIRA during the current financial year i.e. 2005-06.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply to part (c) of LSUQ No.2498 for 9.12.2005.

Schemes under jute sector being implemented in Assam

## National Centre for Jute Diversification:

NCJD is operating the following schemes in Assam for the development of Jute Textiles and other diversified jute products, manufactured by using jute fibre and yarn as the basic raw material:

1. Jute Service Centre Scheme
2. Jute Raw Material bank Scheme
3. Market Support Scheme
4. Design Development Scheme
- 5.. Jute Entrepreneurs (Capital Subsidy) Assistance Scheme (JEAS)
- 6.. Micro Finance
7. NER Special programme.

2. As regards weaving of jute fabric(Hessian), NCJD has assisted 4 units for manufacture of jute yarn, fabric including dyeing, bleaching etc. in the district Kamrup and Nagaon. These units were issued by way of granting interest free loan under earlier JEAS which has now been converted in to the Jute Entrepreneurs Assistance Capital Subsidy Scheme.

3. Besides, through various skill generation activities, NJCD has trained a large number of artisans for manufacture of jute diversified products of various purposes. In this venture, NCJD is implementing their programmes in close collaboration of the State Directorate of Industries, Govt., of Assam, DICs and other organizations like Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship,(IIE), North Eastern Technical Consultancy Organisation (NETICC), North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFI), North Eastern Consultancy Organisation (NECON) etc. NCJD's Jute Service Centres at Guwahati and Silchar and Raw Material Banks at Guwahati, Dhubri and Silchar equally contributing to the development of jute textiles and textile based down stream products in the state of Assam. During 2004-05 an amount of Rs.1.70 crores was released to NCJD for development activities in North Eastern Region.

## Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA)

4. The Ministry of Textiles has approved a Scheme "Strengthening of the Regional Centre for IJIRA in Guwahati, Assam" at a cost of Rs.7.85 crores in 2003-04. During 2004-05, Rs.1 Crore was released to IJIRA. IJIRA has taken possession of the land and tender has been called for construction of infrastructure for the regional centre. IJIRA operates a series of activities for processing jute, kenaf, ramie and other natural fibres in Assam and other North Eastern States.

## Jute Corporation of India (JCI)

5. The Jute Corporation of India (JCI) operates 25 procurement centres in Assam for conducting MSP operations for raw jute.

## O/o the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

6. O/o the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has been implementing several schemes to promote & develop handicrafts sector including handicrafts jute in the country including State of Assam. The important ones are:

- Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AVHY)for integrated development of craft clusters;
- Design & Technology Upgradation;
- Marketing & Support Services;
- Export Promotion;
- Training and Extension;
- Research & Development & Credit Guarantee Scheme etc.