

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2241
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2006
SILK TECHNOLOGY MISSION
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has launched Silk Technology Mission on the lines of Cotton Technology Mission;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide any subsidy to the entrepreneurs for the project ; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the domestic production of silk and to cut our dependence on imports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a) to (c) : The Central Silk Board is in the process of preparing a document for Technology Mission for Indian Silk in consultation with various state Governments and stake holders of the industry. The document is in the initial stages and a lot of work and consultation is yet to be done.

(d) : Several programmes and schemes to boost the domestic production of silk and to cut our dependence on imports have been instituted. The important ones are:

1. During the X Plan period, under the Catalytic Development Programme, a provision of Rs.181.00 crores has been made for providing assistance to sericulture farmers / reelers to encourage them to adopt improved technology aiming towards improvement in quality and productivity;

2. The Central Silk Board (CSB) has evolved new bivoltine breeds with assistance from the Japan International Co-Operation Agency (JICA). The commercial exploitation of these breeds has resulted in the production of international standard import substitute grade of mulberry raw silk in the country;

3. Through R&D efforts, the CSB has made a break through in tropicalising the bivoltine silkworm and has developed new varieties of mulberry plants with higher yields resulting in significant improvement in silk productivity;

4. The CSB has developed improved multi-end reeling units to encourage large scale production of international grade quality silk. These improved machines are being popularized among the reelers through the Catalytic Developmental Programme at important reeling clusters all over the country and are producing gradable quality raw silk using the reeling package developed by Central Silk Technological Research Institute of Central Silk Board;

5. The quality of yarn and fabrics in non-mulberry sector has also improved considerably through the introduction of motorized silk reeling / spinning machines and setting up of Common Facility Centres. The CSB has developed new designs in non-mulberry sector and same are being popularized under the brand "Vanya Silk";

6. Following specific collaborative projects are being implemented in different states to exploit the region specific potentialities for sericulture development to enhance silk production:

Special Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojagar Yojana (SGSY) for tasar and eri culture in Bihar and Jharkhand;

Development of eri culture in Andhra Pradesh;

Pilot project for the development of eri culture in Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Kerala;

Micro project for introduction of eri culture in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh;

Special SGSY project for the development of mulberry sericulture in Mizoram;

Project for the development of oak tasar in Uttranchal and Manipur;

Manipur Sericulture Project and Chattisgarh Sericulture Project with the assistance of Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC);

Special SGSY Project for the development of muga silk in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland;

Project for development of muga and eri silk in Bodoland areas of Assam; and

Cluster development project for the development of sericulture in Bihar, Maharashtra, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and West Bengal.