

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2614
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2006
SERICULTURE PRODUCTION
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area of sericulture production in various regions in Tamil Nadu has increased over the years;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years, till date; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to further improve the production of sericulture in the state and to improve the livelihood of the farmers engaged in its cultivation?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. During the last three years i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and upto December, 2006 area and production details are given below:

Year	Mulberry (Hectares)			Production of		
	Irrigated	Rain-fed	Total	DFLs (Lakh Nos)	Reeling	Raw Silk (M.T.)
	Cocoon (M.T.)					
2002-03	5065	329	5394	82.26	4005	490
2003-04	3784	241	4025	40.40	2124	285
2004-05	4856	217	5073	55.87	3101	443
2005-06 (upto December, 2005)	6744	229	6973	64.72	3802	522
% increase/decrease during 2004-05 over 2003-04.	28.3	-9.9	26.0	37.6	46.00	55.4

The decrease in the acreage during the year 2003-04 is mainly due to the drought conditions in the state. However, the industry has recovered due to good monsoon during the current year.

(c) Govt. have taken following steps for improving the production of sericulture in the state and to improve the livelihood of the farmers:

(1) During X Plan period under the Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) a provision of Rs.181.00 crores has been made for sericulture development in the country for providing assistance to sericulture farmers/reelers to encourage them to adopt improved technology aiming towards improvement in quality and productivity. A sum of Rs.523.58 lakhs has been released to the state of Tamil Nadu so far during the X Plan period.

(2) The Central Silk Board has evolved new bivoltine breeds with assistance from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA). Commercial exploitation of these breeds has resulted in improving the quality and productivity.

(3) The Central Silk Technological Research Institute (CSTRI) under Central Silk Board has developed improved devices, fabricated new machines, equipments, appliances which have helped improvement in silk quality and productivity.

(4) Through R&D efforts Central Silk Board has made break through in tropicalising the bivoltine silkworm and development of host plants with higher yields resulting in significant improvement in silk productivity.

(5) The improved package of practices developed by the Research Institutes of CSB has improved the productivity of mulberry cocoons from 602 kg/ha. to 698 kg/ha.