

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3414
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2004
DEVICE INVENTED BY SRTI
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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the device invented by the scientists of Sericulture Research and Training Institute, Mysore for extracting ecdysteride from the plants of Cheriophlesia group for which these scientists were recently awarded by National Research Development Council (NRDC); and

(b) the commercial potential of the above said invention in sericulture?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) The Scientists of Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, Mysore have identified plants belonging to the Caryophyllaceae family and perfected the technique to extract Ecdysteroid. A simplified technique has also been developed to apply this extract in precise dose to silkworm in large scale so that all the silkworms become ready for cocoon building within 18-24 hours of treatment which would otherwise take about 3 days in the natural course. This technology reduces labour and leaf consumption, enables the farmer to control the process and manage his silkworm rearing more efficiently and also enhances uniformity in cocoon formation, leading to higher quality grading. It is cost effective giving back seven rupees for each rupee the farmer spends.

(b) The technology has been licensed to the Bangalore based manufacturing company M/s Sericare and the product is being marketed in the trade name `Sampoorna`. This product is competitively priced and has become popular in a short span of time. It is estimated that approximately 260 kg. of Ecdysteroid is required per year. Against this, the production has not crossed even two digit figure. So, the commercial potential of this product is really huge.