

Title: Need to take suitable measures to protect the interest of silk industry in Karnataka and other parts of the country. --Laid

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (GULBARGA) : Today, the world market demands for silk fabrics in European countries is declining. Chinese eyes are set on the growing market in India which is largest consumer of raw silk. Hence to protect the sericulture industry, there is an urgent need to have a secured market for Indian silk organised dumping of cheap raw silk.

I suggest the Government to take the following immediate measures in the larger interest of the silk industry in Karnataka :-

- i. There is no correlation between the quality of silk being imported and the fabric exported. Hence, silk import to be restricted at 1.15 kgs. of quality silk as against export of one kg. of silk fabric;
- ii. To raise the import duty from the existing 30.2% to 60% on silk and also silk export linked import under OGL;
- iii. To restrict the import of silk to genuine silk exporters and not to others;
- iv. To adopt stringent measures to curb smuggling of silk into India, especially through Bangladesh and Nepal; and
- v. Confiscated silk by customs is being disposed by Customs Department without proper logic. Hence, it is recommended to dispose the same through Silk Exchange or similar Government Agencies like Karnataka Silk Marketing Board or similar organisations in the entire country.