

(b) to (d) It is not a fact that the construction workers are not considered mainstream workers and are deprived of facilities legitimately available to other workers. Besides the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, various other labour laws like Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Employees Compensation Act, 1923, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 etc. are applicable to these workers.

#### **Enhancing Sericulture potential**

1212. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to enhance Sericulture potential in India;
- (b) if so, present, expected capacity details thereof, location-wise;
- (c) whether there was any survey carried out by Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC) for mulberry cultivation in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of location-wise present mulberry acreage during the terminal year (2011-12) of XI Plan are given below:—

#	States	End of XI Plan Mulberry Plantation Area (in Ha.)
1	2	3
1.	Karnataka	70958
2.	Andhra Pradesh	40314
3.	Tamil Nadu	14593
4.	West Bengal	13557
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	7082

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1	2	3
6.	Bihar	598
7.	Chhattisgarh	685
8.	Haryana	46
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1249
10.	Jharkhand	203
11.	Kerala	51
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1677
13.	Maharashtra	2326
14.	Orissa	379
15.	Punjab	858
16.	Rajasthan	-
17.	Uttar Pradesh	5311
18.	Uttarakhand	1632
19.	Assam	7074
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	210
21.	Manipur	6298
22.	Meghalaya	1754
23.	Mizoram	2170
24.	Nagaland	495
25.	Sikkim	189
26.	Tripura	1380
TOTAL		181089

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The total area of plantation under mulberry is likely to go up to 2.40 lakh hectare by the end of XII Plan subject to approval of XII Plan proposals and availability of resources.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC), Shillong has carried out a potential area mapping in the selected districts of Mizoram by using Remote Sensing & Geographical Information System application for identification of potential areas for mulberry cultivation in Mizoram. The present report of NESAC shows that an area of 4,59,689 Ha. is potential for mulberry sericulture in the State.

#### **CCI's intervention on purchase of cotton in Gujarat**

1213. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has intervened and purchased cotton from farmers of Gujarat by paying Rs. 4,500 per quintal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are demands from any State(s) for CCI's intervention to purchase cotton;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) what action the Ministry has taken on such request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of Government's decision authorizing Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) to create a buffer stock of 10 lakh bales through commercial operations, CCI undertook commercial operations in May, 2012 in Saurashtra at commercially viable prices upto Rs. 4500/- per qtl. CCI has created a buffer stock of 3.48 lakh bales.

(c) to (e) No demands were received from other States for commercial operations. However, CCI undertook commercial operations in Warangal, Guntur and Adilabad mandis of Andhra Pradesh and in several mandis of Vidarbha (Maharashtra).