

(d) The Government through Central Silk Board (CSB) has taken the following measures for increasing production of muga silk:

- (1) Established Regional Office of CSB at Guwahati to coordinate sericulture development activities with State and other agencies in Assam and NE Region.
- (2) Regional Muga Research Station at Boko to provide R&D and extension support for Muga sericulture.
- (3) Muga Silkworm Seed Organization in Guwahati with a network of one Muga SSPC at Kaliabari and one P3 Unit at Hahim (both in Kamrup Districts) for production and supply of muga basic seed for further multiplication by Government, of Assam and private graineurs to produce quality silkworm seed.
- (4) Regional Silk Technological Research Station, Khanapara, Guwahati to provide required R&D support in post cocoon activities.
- (5) A Muga Raw Material Bank (MRMB) is functioning at Sibsagar in Assam with 3 Sub-Depots, at Dhakukhana, Sualkuchi (Assam) and Coochbehar (W.B) with the objective of ensuring economic and fair price to the actual muga cocoon producers.
- (6) During XI Plan, ₹33.26 crores has been exclusively spent for development of muga sector under CDP scheme. For the development of post cocoon sector, assistance is provided for reeling/ spinning machines, handloom up gradation, pneumatic lifting mechanism, yarn dyeing units, effluent treatment plants, CATD, Common Facility Centres (CFCs) etc.

#### **New textile policy**

2347. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has finalized the new textile policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the new policy is expected to be based on the Textile Vision document prepared by the Ajay Shankar panel and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Panel under Shri Ajay Shanker has been

requested to submit their report on Handloom, Handicrafts and Technical Textiles for taking further action on the New Textile Policy.

#### **Welfare of handloom weavers**

2348. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any schemes for improvement in financial condition of handloom weavers and to provide them adequate employment in Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes being implemented for the welfare of weavers in both the States and the number of weavers covered under those schemes;

(c) the funds released for implementation of such schemes during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) whether Government has received any representation from weavers' associations in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles through Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms is implementing following schemes for overall development of the Handloom sector, including improvement in the financial conditions of Handloom Weavers and to provide them adequate employment across the country, including Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh States:

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme
  - (i) Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme
  - (ii) Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package
- (2) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (3) Yarn Supply Scheme.

Details of funds released and beneficiaries covered under Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year (till November, 2014), are as under: