

Cotton, High Density Planting System. The scheme is being implemented through State Department of Agriculture (SDA), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) etc. Besides, States can support cotton development programme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). ICAR extend various technology including Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM) and monitoring and surveillance of insecticide pest diseases on cotton.

- (ii) With a view to promote Cotton farming, during cotton season 2015-16, Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmer Welfare has fixed minimum support price for medium staple length cotton at ₹ 3800/- per quintal and for long staple at ₹ 4100/- per quintal.
- (iii) Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Limited has been entrusted with procurement of cotton from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) to protect the interest of farmers by giving MSP to their produce to avoid distress sale.

#### **Promotion of silk industry**

1498. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people engaged in the silk industry at present, State-wise;
- (b) the production, consumption, import and export of silk during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether Government proposes to promote sericulture along with the promotion of local silk weaving techniques of Bhagalpur, Banaras etc., if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the plan of Government to restrict import of raw silk and silk yarn to promote the domestic silk industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Around 8.25 million people are engaged presently under sericulture sector in the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Raw silk production, consumption, import and export of silk in the country during each of the last three years and the current year are given below:

Year	Raw silk Production (MTs)	Consumption (MTs)	Import of Raw silk (MTs)	Export Earnings (Crore ₹)
2013-14	26,480	29,552	3,260	2,480.89
2014-15	28,708	32,050	3,489	2,829.88
2015-16	28,472	31,749	3,529	2,495.99
2016-17* (Prov.)	4,203	4,683	480	282.17

\*(Apr-May, 16)

(c) Yes Madam, the Government have taken following measures to promote sericulture in Bhagalpur and Varanasi silk clusters of the country:

- (i) In Bhagalpur Mega Handloom cluster covering Banka and Bhagalpur Cluster, 10 Block level clusters have been sanctioned under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme(CHCDS) to support improving skills of weavers in silk weaving, introduction of new designs and development/diversification of handloom products by engaging designer, technology up-gradation etc. Besides, the Government through Central Silk Board (CSB) is also providing required support for promotion of Sericulture activities in Bhagalpur covering all the sericulture related activities across silk value chain up to the stage of silk reeling.
- (ii) In Varanasi Mega Handloom cluster covering the entire district, 10 Block level clusters have been sanctioned under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme(CHCDS) to support improving skills of weavers in silk weaving, introduction of new designs and development/diversification of handloom products by engaging designer, technology up-gradation etc. Further, to cater to the needs of stakeholders of Varanasi silk industry, a Textile Testing Laboratory (TTL) under CSTRI was established in Varanasi during the year 1996.

(d) Government has taken following steps to restrict import of raw silk and silk yarn:

- To safeguard the interest of the domestic silk industry against the cheap imports from China, the Director General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty in the form of fixed duty of US\$ 1.85 per Kg. on the landed cost of imported Chinese raw silk of 3A Grade and below in December, 2015 which will be in place till December, 2020. Similarly, an anti-

dumping duty on fabric imported from China P R is also in place till December, 2016.

- Besides, thrust has been given for production of import substitute bivoltine silk within the country so as to reduce our dependency on import of silk.

***Statement***

*State-wise number of persons presently engaged under sericulture sector in the country*

Sl. No.	States	persons presently engaged under Sericulture* (Million No.)
1	2	3
1.	A.P. & Telangana	0.86
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.02
3.	Assam	1.98
4.	Bihar	0.03
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.12
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.02
8.	Jharkhand	1.06
9.	Karnataka	1.62
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.05
11.	Maharashtra	0.05
12.	Mizoram	0.01
13.	Odisha	0.05
14.	Tamil Nadu	0.31
15.	Tripura	0.01

1	2	3
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0.06
17.	West Bengal	0.41
	Other States (including import activities)	1.58
	TOTAL	8.25

*Note:* \*The employment generation includes all the activities involved in cocoon production to making of finished goods.

#### **Export of textiles and clothing**

1499. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry aims to export textiles and clothing worth US \$ 48.5 billion during the current year;

(b) if so, how it is going to achieve this challenging target when the world market is in gloom and the Ministry failed to achieve its target of US \$ 45-47.5 billion; and

(c) to what extent Chinese tepid market helps in achieving the above target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes Sir, Ministry of Textiles aims to export US\$ 48.5 billion textile and clothing during 2016-17.

(b) Government is planning to achieve the target of US\$ 48.5 billion in current financial year by announcing the special package of ₹ 6,000 crores which will boost the employment generation and export of textile and apparel.

(c) It is estimated that China's present share in global export of textiles and apparel will decrease from 40% to 33% by 2025. This will open an opportunity of more than US\$ 150 billion for other exporting nations including India to increase its exports.

#### **Projects under Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana**

1500. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cluster Development Programmes related to natural fibre have been organized under the Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) during the last five years;