

IMPORT OF SILK

4642. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- the quantum of silk imported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- the custom duty on silk during the said period;
- whether the Government plans to bring down the import of silk to zero by 2020;
- if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- whether the Government has taken any initiatives to improve the quality of silk being produced in the country and if so, the details thereof?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी)

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The details of silk and silk products imported into the country during last three years and the current year are given below:-

Silk & Silk Products Imported during last three years and current year				
Value: In Crore Rs.				
Items	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (April-Sept.)
Raw Silk	896.44	970.82	1006.16	559.75
Silk Yarn	100.07	103.78	81.66	37.04
Fabrics & Made ups	315.32	239.01	249.46	113.15
Total	1311.83	1313.61	1337.28	709.94

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b): The details of custom duty on silk during three years and the current year are given below:-

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Basic Custom Duty on imported Raw Silk & Silk Yarn (%)	15%	15%	10%	10%

(c) to (e): Government has taken several measures to progressively reduce import of raw silk & silk yarn to improve the quality of silk as given in **Annexure-A**.

1. Measures taken by the Government to bring down the import of silk to zero by 2020

- Research & Development and effective transfer of technology at all stages for increasing production of import substitute bivoltine silk, improving productivity, quality and reducing the cost of production.
- Implementation of Integrated Scheme for development of silk industry under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) through Central Silk Board (CSB) for extending support to the farmers and reelers to improve the production and quality of silk in the country.
- Mobilizing additional funds by Central Silk Board and State Governments for sericulture development through convergence by availing the schemes such as MGNREGA, RKVY etc., being implemented by various other Ministries of Government of India.
- Implementation of Cluster Promotion Programme for promotion of bivoltine silk through Central Silk Board.
- Providing support through CSB and State Governments for technology transfer, capacity building, training, input delivery, marketing facilities etc., for farmers and reelers.
- Establishment of Automatic Reeling Units for production of 3A-4A grade raw silk from bivoltine hybrid cocoons to meet the demand for gradable raw silk
- Thrust to improve technologies, diversify products and designs to expand the export share of the country.

2. Initiatives taken by the Government through Central Silk Board to improve the quality of silk in the country

(i) Production of Bivoltine Silk:

- Strengthening the Research & Development system to improve the levels of cocoon production and productivity
- During XII Plan, 176 clusters have been organized under Cluster Promotion Programme (CPP) to augment the production of bivoltine silk production in the country. Bivoltine silk production has increased from 1,685 MTs in 2011-12 to 4,613 MTs during 2015-16.
- Improved mulberry varieties viz. V1, G4, G2 have been developed to promote Bivoltine sericulture.
- Bivoltine hybrids like CSR2 x CSR4, CSR16 x CSR17, FC1xFC2 & FC3xFC4 have been developed and are being used for production of better quality BV silk in Southern region through-out the year. Two new bivoltine hybrids viz., G11xG19 and B.con1xB.con4 with better yield and adaptation are under popularisation.
- Cold Storage facilities and Bivoltine grainages have been strengthened to produce quality Bivoltine silkworm seed.
- Silkworm Seed Act is being implemented to bring quality standards in silkworm seed production to improve the productivity and quality of silk.
- Intensive Bivoltine Sericulture project at a total cost of Rs.236.78 Cr. implemented in eight North Eastern States from 2015-16 exclusively to promote Bivoltine silk, under NERTPS.
- Automatic Reeling Units are set up in the country for production of 3A-4A grade raw silk from bivoltine hybrid cocoons.

(ii) Production of Vanya Silk (Muga, Eri and Tasar):

- Integrated Sericulture Development Project (ISDP): Under North Eastern Region-Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Government has approved 14 Sericulture Project with a total cost of Rs. 523.33 crore (GoI share of Rs. 423.33 crores) for implementation in NE States viz., Assam, Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC), Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura to promote Vanya Silk.
- CSB has developed latest technology packages, improved farm machineries, indigenous automatic reeling units, Vanya silk reeling and spinning units to reduce drudgery and improve quality and productivity of Vanya silk.