

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 771  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2021

IMPORT OF SILK

771. SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR:

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

- (a) the quantum of silk imported during each of the last three years;
- (b) the details of new projects and developments made through mechanized practices that were set-up during last year;
- (c) the details of the initiatives and funds released towards the productivity of silk for West-Bengal during the previous three years; and
- (d) the total number of beneficiaries from Silk producing villages/districts in West Bengal during the previous three years?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ुबिन इरानी)  
MINISTER OF TEXTILES  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The quantum of silk imported during last three years is given below:

Year	Import of raw silk (Metric Tonnes)
2017-18	3712
2018-19	2785
2019-20	3315

(b): The details of new projects and developments made through mechanized practices in sericulture during last year are given at **Annexure**.

(c): Ministry of Textiles, Government of India through Central Silk Board has taken following initiatives towards productivity of silk in West Bengal during last three years:

- Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute (CSR&TI), Berhampore, West Bengal is functioning along with Regional Sericulture Research Station at Kalimpong & Research Extension Centre at Mothabari to address the Research & Development activities related mulberry sericulture.
- A regional Office of Central Silk Board is located at Kolkata to co-ordinate with states for implementation of schemes & issues related to silk sector.
- Research Extension Centres at Kapistha (for tasar) & Coochbehar (for Muga) are functioning to facilitate Tasar & Muga sericulture.
- Three Basic Seed Farms (P2 (Two),P3 (one)), Two Silkworm Seed Production Centres and a Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre for tasar are functioning to cater the silkworm seed requirement.
- A Regional Silk Technological Research Station of Central Silk Board is functioning at Malda to look after the needs of silk reeling, weaving & processing industry in the state.
- As per Department of Sericulture, West Bengal state proposal, funds of Rs. 603.68 lakhs has been released during last three years under Central Sector Scheme "Silk Samagra" for the development of silk industry in the state.

(d): The total number of beneficiaries covered in Silk producing villages/districts in West Bengal during the previous three years is 2446 under Silk Samagra scheme.

**New projects initiated:**

1. Development of Artificial intelligence empowered multi-sensor approach for Gender classification and separation of silkworm cocoons (multi-sensor based separation of male and female cocoons)
2. Development of trap through biorational tactics for the management of mulberry leaf webber *Glyphodes pyloalis* (bio-trap against mulberry leaf webber)
3. Development of commercial model bulky raw silk machine (web silk reeling technology) for the production of bulky yarns fabrics

**Developments with outcome by Concluded projects during last year which are to be field tested:**

Sl. No.	Project	Outcome/ Mechanized practice to be field tested
1.	Demonstration and popularization of pheromone trap against silkworm uzi fly <i>Exorista bombycis</i>	Pheromone based trap against uzi fly
2.	Studies on drum- kit drip irrigation with hydrogel on yield and water use efficiency of mulberry	Enhanced water use efficiency by treatment of Hydrogel in mulberry plantation along with Drum kit drip irrigation
3.	Development of antibody based biosensor for early and rapid detection of silkworm viruses at Chawki Rearing Centres.	Antibody based biosensor kit for detection of <i>BmNPV</i> , which can be used in CRCs.
4.	Studies on utilization of solar energy in tasar post-cocoon technology operations	Solar operated Cocoon Cooking Device for softening of large no of tasar cocoons with savings on fuel expenditure
5.	Development of LED traps for controlling major insect pests and predators in muga ecosystem – Needs for organic muga silk production	LED traps developed for controlling major insect pests and predators in Muga ecosystem
6.	Development of miniature eri spinning plant for better productivity & quality for adoption in NER	Miniature eri spinning machine for medium converters
7.	Development of an apparatus to estimate the reelability of cocoons	An apparatus to estimate the reelability of the mulberry cocoons was developed

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