LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1798 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021

PROMOTION OF SILK INDUSTRY

1798. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is taking any steps to improve the condition of silk traders in district Bhagalpur (Bihar);

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and if not the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to promote silk industry on the lines of Khadi and Village Industries and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has released funds in this regard and if so, the quantum of funds sanctioned and spent so far?

उत्तर ANSWER वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (**श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश**) THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) & (b): Government of India through Central Silk Board(CSB) has taken following steps to promote silk industry in the country including Bihar state:

- i. Central Schemes viz; "Silk Samagra" is being implemented to promote silk industry in the country.
- ii. Strengthened the Research & Development system to improve cocoon production, productivity and silkworm hybrids.
- iii. To produce import substitute Bivoltine silk in the country, R&D has been focused to evolve productive Bivoltine hybrids.
- iv. Cold Storage facilities and Bivoltine grainages have been strengthened.
- v. For production of 3A-4A grade raw Silk from the Bivoltine cocoons, Automatic Reeling Machine (ARM) Units have been established in the country.
- vi. Buniyad Reeling Machines (BRM) are being provided to women thigh reelers by State of Bihar with support from CSB.
- vii. Collaborative research programmes have been taken up with Bulgaria, Australia, Japan, Sweden and Uzbekistan for enhancing the silk production.
- viii. "Indian Silk" is being promoted as a brand in the global market through generic promotion & with the "Silk Mark Tag".
- ix. The basic customs duty of 15% is levied on raw silk import to make the domestic silk weaving & export segment stronger and competitive.

(c) & (d): During last four years (2017-18 to 2020-21), financial assistance of Rs. 665.96 Lakhs has been provided to Bihar state under Silk Samagra scheme towards implementation of beneficiary oriented critical field level interventions.