Shri Gautam Daniel Roy Chawdhury  
House No.7, AG Office Road  
Beltola, Guwahati-781 029  
(Assam)

Sir,

Sub: Mulberry Silk production in Assam – reg.

-x-x-x-x-

I am directed to refer your request through RTI vide Regn.No.CSBRD/R/2019/50001 dated 06-01-2019 on the above subject and to furnish the information as under:

1. **Information on the total Mulberry Silk production in Assam both in pre & post cocoon sectors.**

   Ans: Mulberry silk is produced only under Post-Cocoon activities. Pre-cocoon sector activities are limited upto production of cocoon only. The total Mulberry Silk produced by Assam during 2017-18 is 59 MT and for 2018-19 (April to November) is 64 MT.

2. **What are the reasons for such low production in Assam compared to Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh compared to Assam with relevant data.**

   Ans: The reasons for less production of raw silk in Assam in comparison to Karnataka are as follows:

   1. Assam is a traditional sericulture state having vast potential for development and expansion of Eri and Muga silks, whereas Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are traditional States for **Mulberry** Sericulture.

   2. The agro-climatic conditions prevailing in the State are well suited for Eri & Muga, whereas the agro-climatic condition of Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh are well suited for Mulberry Sericulture.

   3. The total area under Mulberry Plantation in Karnataka is 98,135 ha whereas in Assam the area is only 8,594 ha.

   4. The climatic condition of Assam restrict the farmers for Bivoltine commercial rearing in two main seasons i.e. March-April and Oct-Nov, whereas in Karnataka the rearing can be conducted throughout the year.
Comparative statement of Mulberry silk production in Assam, Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19 *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>9823</td>
<td>9571</td>
<td>9322</td>
<td>7504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>5086</td>
<td>5971</td>
<td>6778</td>
<td>4579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* (April to November

3. What are the measures taken by the CSB to increase the mulberry production in Assam.

Ans: Govt. of India has supported Assam for implementation of Catalytic Development Programme (CDP), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme from IX Plan to first 3 years of XII Plan. Keeping in view the prospects and potential for mulberry sericulture development, **Intensive Bivoltine Sericulture Development Project (IBSDP)** under **“North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme”** is being implemented since 2015-16 with a project cost of Rs.59.61 crore with Govt share of Rs.53.03 crore for IBSDP to bring additional 1,000 acres under mulberry covering 2,332 beneficiaries. It will increase the production of mulberry raw silk by 34 MT. Besides, one Seed Infrastructure unit has also been created in the State to meet the mulberry seed requirement.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
[R.C. Das]
Deputy Secretary (Tech)

Copy for information to:


[R.C. Das]
Deputy Secretary (Tech)