

Evaluation of the Impact of Sericulture Programme Implemented by Industries during 11th and 12th Five Year Plans in the State of Jharkhand

Executive summary

Sericulture is an agro-based income and employment generation cottage industry for the rural poor and tribes in Jharkhand and many other states in India. There are about 1, 65,000 families involved in rearing from 17,000 villages in all the districts of Jharkhand. Tasar is grown in 24 districts, which are characterized by high tribal concentration and large forest cover with abundant availability of tasar host plants such as Arjuna (*Terminalia arjuna*), Asan (*T. tomentosa*) and Sal (*Shorea robusta*).

A number of stakeholders are involved for promotion of tasar sericulture in Jharkhand. The Directorate of Handloom, Sericulture and Handicraft (DoHS&H), which comes under the Department of Industries, Jharkhand, has the primary responsibility of development of sericulture across the state. In addition, there are other institutes such as the Central Tasar Research and Training Institute (CTR&TI) at Ranchi, Raw Material Bank at Chaibasa, Jharcraft etc.

The main objective of the government is to promote and encourage growth of sericulture, handicraft, handloom, khadi and village industries in rural areas for creating employment generation and utilization of local resources. To achieve the above objectives, the Government of Jharkhand has initiated various sericulture development schemes with support from the Central Silk Board (CSB) in the state to improve the socio-economic conditions of people in Jharkhand. Jharkhand comes under the special state for obtaining financial assistance under Catalytic Development Programme (CDP). The schemes which are given below, includes both state and CDP schemes. The methodology included going through a series of secondary information which was collected from the DoHS&H. Such information included the profile of the sericulture in the state, scheme-wise beneficiaries, physical and financial targets and achievements under 11th and 12th Five Year Plans using a checklist. Information was collected from CTR&TI at Ranchi, raw material bank at Chaibasa, Jharcraft.

State schemes

- Nucleus seed production/cocoon production;
- Basic seed production/seed cocoon production;
- Commercial tasar seed/cocoon production;
- Training on rearing/seed production/ reeling/ spinning;
- Augmentation of tasar food plantation;
- Mulberry plantation;
- Establishment of reeling and spinning CFC;
- Establishment of cocoon bank.

Except establishment of CFCs, Cocoon Bank and Nucleus Seed Production other schemes are implemented under CDP with 80% financial assistances from CSB.

CDP schemes

- Support to private grainages;
- Assistance to seed rearers;
- Strengthening of state grainage;
- Beneficiary empowerment programme;
- Health insurance;
- Crop insurance;
- CBO/Cluster Development Programme;
- Development of mulberry;
- Establishment of tasar food plantation.