

Socio- economic Development through Sericulture in Karnataka

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Abstract: Sericulture is one of the important potential agro- based rural industry in the world. This paper analyzed that socio- economic development through sericulture sector in the world and in India. Majority of the people are engaged in various sericulture related activities in the country. This paper mainly focused on socio- economic development, employment generation, and sericulture sector activities in the state. This sector expected low investment with higher returns in short gestation, due to this rural economy mainly concentrated on this sector. This paper mainly focused on sericulture as a eco-friendly, helps to soil conservation and foreign exchange earning opportunity for the developing countries.

I. Concept of Sericulture

Sericulture is an agro-based industry. It involves rearing of silkworms for the production of raw silk, which is the yarn obtained out of cocoons spun by certain species of insects. The major activities of sericulture comprises of food-plant cultivation to feed the silkworms which spin silk cocoons and reeling the cocoons for unwinding the silk filament for value added benefits such as processing and weaving.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the sericulture in the world and in India
2. To study the sericulture in Karnataka
3. To study socio- economic conditions of sericulture

II. Methodology of the Study

This study is mainly based on secondary sources of information. These secondary data are collected from various sources like- Published articles, journals, news papers, Karnataka economic survey, and the department of Sericulture, and research articles.

Present Status of Sericulture in World

The sericulture plays an important role in creating global levels for economic development in various countries. China is the first and largest silk produce country, and 1 million workers are employed in the world. India is the second highest silk producers of raw silk and consumer of pure silk in the world level. The other major silk producers developing countries like- Brazil, African, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Egypt, Iran, Shrilanka, Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, Mynmar., Turkey, Mexico, Uzbekistan and the United States etc. And the most silk consumers of the world developing countries are; China, India, USA, Japan, Italy, France, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany, UAE, Korea, Vietnam etc. At present, sericulture plays an increasing consumption of silk products witnessed in most of the developed countries leads to high demand in global level market. It play an important role in foreign exchange earning opportunity for the developing countries in the world.

Present Status of Sericulture in India

India has second highest silk producer of raw silk and consumer of pure of silk. In India, silk production has improved manifold since independence from the raw silk production level of 1437 MTs during 1969- 74, 21000 MTs during 2010- 11 and 23679 MTs during 2013. India is the only country in the world to produce all the four varieties of silk namely Mulberry, Eri, Tasar, And Muga are produced in the country. Mulberry is the largest practiced sericulture industry in India. Mulberry silk production contributes almost 80 percent for entire silk production in the country. Sericulture is an important labour intensive sector in the world and Indian economy combining both agriculture and industry. It provides livelihood to large section of the rural and semi- urban population i.e., mulberry cultivator, co- operative rearer, silkworm seed producer, farmer- cum- rearer, reeler, twistor, weaver, hand spinners of silk waste, traders etc. Sericulture is a cash crop in the agriculture sector, it gives returns within 30 days. Hence, these helps to rural people for the socio- economic

development, women empowerment, increase children's education, social activities developments through sericulture activities in India.

Table- 1.3 Employment Generation of India

Years	Employment
2007- 08	6.12
2008- 09	6.31
2009- 10	6.82
2010- 11	7.25
2011- 12	7.56
2012- 13	7.09
2013- 14	8.22

Source: International Sericulture Commission 2014

This table information that employment generation of India created more employment generation in sericulture. In Indian employment during 2007-08 and 2013-14. On the whole high employment generation of India sericulture in recent years 2013-14 is about 8.22 percent is a positive relationship.

Sericulture in Karnataka

Karnataka's sericulture has splendor and grandeur. Sericulture has a long back history of more than about 215 years. In 1785, the Tiger of Mysore Tippu Sultan introduced sericulture in Mysore kingdom. He wanted Mysore as foremost among silk producing nation. The dream of this great ruler became true during later period. During those years Karnataka sericulture has seen many ups and downs in its long journey. It has transformed into a model in mulberry sericulture in the country. During early 19th century the world sericulture was collapsing while Mysore Sericulture industry sustained in same position.

Sericulture sector provides employment opportunities about 10.67 lakh rural, semi- urban people and 1 hectare of mulberry cultivation provides year long continuous employment in the state. They cater to the demand of parental seed cocoons required for the production of cross breed and bivoltine hybrid layings. Sericulture is mainly spread over in the southern part of Karnataka, due to this fast modernizing happens like-urbanization, industrialization, and fill the gap of scarcity of agriculture labour.

Socio- economic Development of Sericulture Sector in Karnataka

Sericulture sector provide Socio- economic development activities as the following

➤ **In Employment generation**

Sericulture is the part of the agriculture activities in the state. More than 60 lakh people are engaged in various sericulture activities. It generates more employment opportunities when compare to other industry, especially in rural and semi- urban areas. So, sericulture is used as a tool for rural reconstruction in the state.

➤ **Low gestation**

About 12000 to 15000 this investment is enough for undertaking mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing in one acre of irrigated land. Mulberry takes only 6 months to grow for commencement of silkworm rearing mulberry once planted will go on supporting silkworm rearing year after year for 15- 20 years depending on management provided. By adopting stipulated package of practice, a farmer can get up to Rs. 30000 per acre/ per annum

➤ **High returns and Women Empowerment**

60 percent of the women employed in down- stream activities sericulture in the country. This achievement is possible because sericulture sector starting from mulberry garden management, leaf harvesting and silkworm rearing.

➤ **Ideal Programme for Weaker Sections of the Society**

Sericulture is an ideal programme for weaker section of the society because low gestation, higher returns. Acres of mulberry garden and silkworm rearing can avoid maximum labourers and save wages in the sericulture sector of the state. Tasar silkworm process can offer supplementary gainful employment for tribals compare to other sericulture activities.

➤ **Eco- friendly Activity**

Sericulture sector is a eco- friendly activity because as a perennial crop with good foliage mulberry contributes to soil conservation and provides greenery. Waste from silkworm rearing can be recycled as inputs to garden. Development programmes initiated for Mulberry plantation are mainly in upland areas where un-used cultivable land is made productive,

➤ **Satisfies Equity Concerns**

Sericulture activities enable the low income rural people as can reach higher income groups.

Mulberry Cultivation and Cocoon Production in Karnataka

S.NO	Years	Area under Mulberry(Hects)	Cocoon Production (in tonnes)
1	2008-09	77328	53370.866
2	2009-10	82098	54284
3	2010-11	62697	52709
4	2011-12	70958	5597.159
5	2012-13	74128.1	49441.003
	Total	367209.1	215402

Source: Karnataka at Glance 2008 to 2013 GOK

In this table analysed the area and production of sericulture in Karnataka. In this period 2008-09 and 2012-13. In Karnataka area under mulberry in hecets 367209.1 and cocoon production in tonnes 215402. On the whole area under mulberry in hecets of during 2008-19 is highest 77328 and cocoon production in tonnes is 5597.159 in 2011-12. It is a negative relation of in this table.

III. Conclusion

Sericulture is one the most important of agriculture and industry sector. In the Karnataka state rural and semi- urban areas most of the people adopt sericulture. Sericulture helps to improve the manufacturing sector. It creates a self employment in Karnataka. More than 60 percent of people engaged in own activities in sericulture. This is an important labour intensive activity and agro- based industry.

Reference:

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