

Cocoon Production Contributing to Silk Handloom Industries of Chhattisgarh State

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Abstract

Silk handloom industries refer to handloom industries contributing to production of silk. Cocoon is an essential component in production of silk, so these cocoons are procured from various silk producing districts of Chhattisgarh state. The study is descriptive in nature involving secondary data. The study tries to find out the difference between target and achievement level in production of tussar cocoons as well as number of beneficiaries prevalent in Chhattisgarh state. It is identified that cocoon production as well as beneficiaries/labourers is more than target fixed for that particular period. It is also found that every next target is based on efficiency of completing targets in last year's.

Keywords: Handloom, Silk, Tussar

1. Introduction

Silk is known as 'Queen of Fabrics' so it can be considered as best of all natural fibres. Silk is popular amongst all fabrics because of its unique strength, luster, softness, drapability and attractiveness. Silk is a protein fibre which is obtained from cocoons produced by silkworm.. Tussar silk is famous as Kosa silk all over Chhattisgarh state. Its specific texture and design makes it popular not only in national level but also in international level. Most of the Kosa silk is produced from Central region of Chhattisgarh. Silk is produced in Janjgir-Champa (Chandrapur), Bilaspur, Raigarh and Chhuri in Katghora Tehsil of Korba districts of Chhattisgarh. However, Janjgir-Champa and Korba are major silk producing centers of Chhattisgarh state. Dewangan community is mostly engaged in weaving of Kosa silk. Pure kosa silk found in Chhattisgarh state is dull golden brown in colour. But now it is available in varied colour like dark honey, orange, cream, pale gold, etc. Price Range of Kosa silk in Chhattisgarh state is between Rs. 500 to Rs. 8000. Kosa silk products of Chhattisgarh state include Sarees, Kurtas, Dhotis, Gamchas, Shawl, Purse, Doormats, Rugs, Cushion Covers, etc.

An Indian Silkworm, *Antheraea Mylitta*, used to produce Tussar or kosa silk. This silkworm feed on Arjun and Saja or Sal trees. Tussar silkworms are reared in Raigarh, Bilaspur, Korba, Sarguja, Jashpur and Bastar districts of Chhattisgarh state. Here tribal people collect cocoons from silkworm and sold it in local market.

2. Cocoon Production

For production of Cocoons, firstly silkworms are reared and the process of rearing silkworm for production of silk is known as Sericulture. Production of cocoon involves tree cultivation and sericulture. Tussar silkworm namely, *Antheraea Mylitta* reared on Arjun and Sal trees in outdoors.

Silkworms are raised to produce cocoons. Firstly eggs are collected and kept in moist and dark place. After few days, larva stage starts and this is the stage of cocoon formation. Then to form a cocoon, larva secretes a sticky fluid and wrap itself completely. This fluid come in contact with air and dried. Worm is present inside cocoon. After 10-15 days, pupa stage arrives in which worms are destroyed and cocoons are collected. Then cocoons are reeled to produce silk yarn which is later woven in handloom. Ssome cocoons are left for further reproduction. These left cocoons converted into moth after two weeks.

3. Findings and Discussions

Table 1. Table representing Target and Achievement of Tussar Cocoon Production and number of Beneficiaries/Labourers involved

S.No.	Particulars	Unit	2014-15		2015-16	
			Target	Actual Achieved	Target	Actual
1	Reared and Nature Grown Tussar Cocoon Production	In Lakh	1080	1292.64	1387.64	1463.17
3	Number of Beneficiaries/Labourers	In No.	40863	47461	52164	67171

It is observed that Tussar cocoons are measured in lakhs and it is found that in last two years, achievement is greater than target. While producing number of tussar cocoons, target regarding number of beneficiaries and labourers involved in that production is also fixed each year. In last two years, achievement is far more than target.

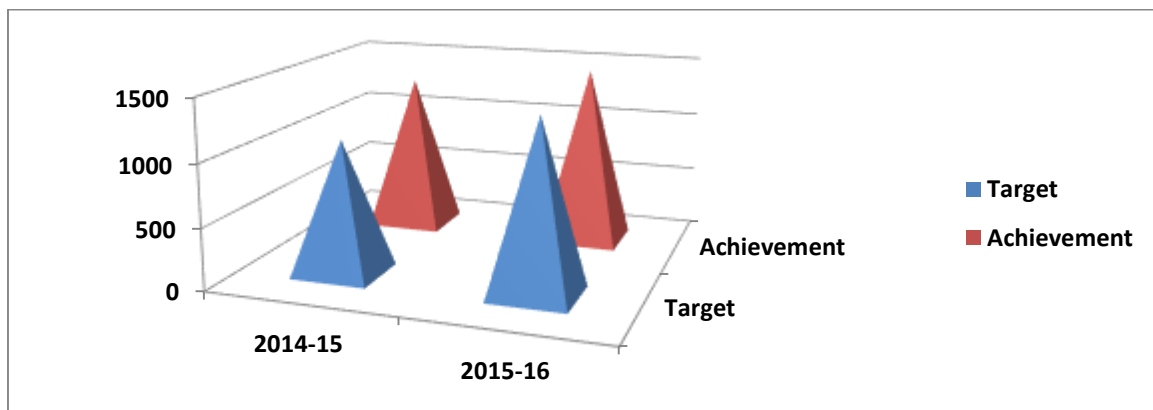


Fig.1: Graph representing target and achievement level of Tussar Production in last two years.

It is revealed that in 2014-15 and 2015-16, cocoon production is more than the target fixed in that particular period. Thus, we can say that in this duration, tussar cocoon production is in rapid pace.

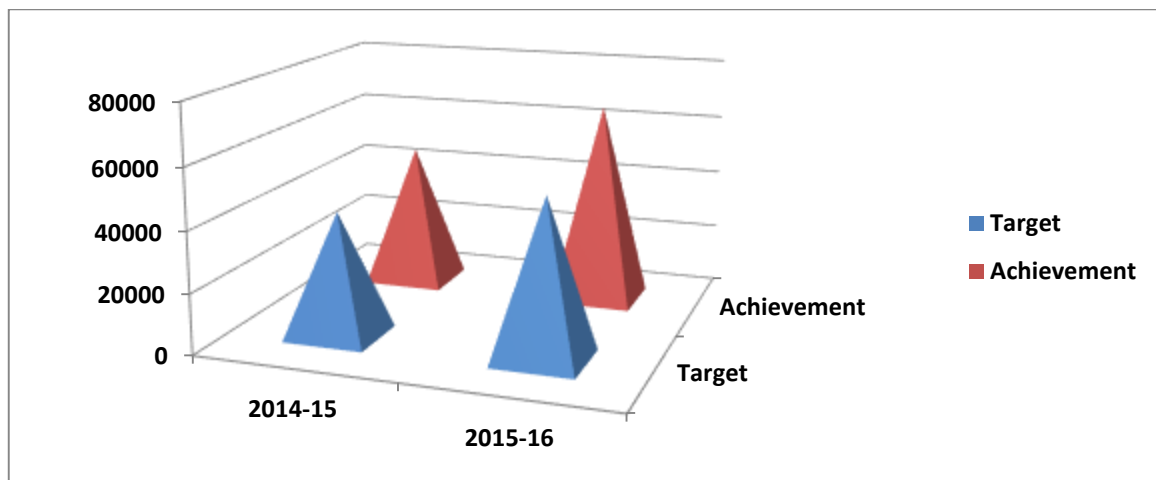


Fig. 2: Graph representing target and achievement level of Beneficiaries/Laborers for Coccon Production in last two years.

In last two years, number of beneficiaries and labourers are increased and it crosses target level. Year 2015-16 shows higher increase than year 2014-15.

4. Conclusion

It is concluded that there is increase in production of tussar cocoon (nature grown and reared variety) and number of beneficiaries/labourers. In 2016-17, target sets according to the completion of target in last year. Cocoon is the basis of silk production, so production of cocoon plays an important role in production of silk. Amount of cocoons produced definitely contributes to the production of silk in handloom industries of Chhattisgarh state.

5. References

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