



# Tex-Connect

An initiative by the Textiles Department, Government of Maharashtra



I take immense pride in Maharashtra's commitment to revitalizing its textile heritage through significant investments in the sericulture sector. We have launched the Maha-Reshim Campaign in partnership with Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Research and Training Institute (BARTI) to raise awareness and support new farmers in sericulture. As part of this initiative, we are transforming ten government sericulture farms into advanced training centers to enhance the skills and productivity of our sericulture farmers.



Additionally, The Textiles Department, Government of Maharashtra has taken a significant step towards enhancing digital services with the introduction of the e-Textile Portal. Featuring an intuitive and user-friendly interface, the portal enables real-time tracking of applications and disbursed incentives, while its integrated data analytics tools support informed decision-making. This initiative simplifies processes for stakeholders in the textile sector and enhances the overall efficiency of administrative functions within Maharashtra's textile industry.

**Shri. Sanjay Sushila Waman Savkare**  
**Hon'ble Minister Textiles**  
**Government of Maharashtra**

## INSIDE THE ISSUE

Sector In Focus Pg. 2-4

Market Insights Pg. 5

Events & Announcements Pg. 6-8

# SECTOR IN FOCUS: SERICULTURE

## Introduction

Sericulture, the cultivation of silkworms for silk production, holds a prominent place in India's agricultural and textile sectors. With its rich heritage and economic potential, sericulture contributes significantly to rural development and employment. This sector not only supports traditional practices but also embraces modern innovations to enhance productivity and sustainability.



### Mulberry Silk is a popular traditional textile in India

India is one of the world's leading producers of silk, ranking second only to China.<sup>1</sup> The country's diverse climatic conditions and the presence of various silk-producing regions make it a hub for sericulture.



### Paithani Silk Saree is a prominent textile in Maharashtra

## Multipurpose use of Sericulture

Apart from silk, there are several other by-products from sericulture. The mulberry fruits are rich in minerals and vitamins and from the roots, bark and mulberry leaves several ayurvedic and herbal medicines are prepared.

Some of the woody mulberry trees provide **timber** which is resistant to termites and is used for making sports items, toys etc. The mulberry branches after silkworm feeding are generally dried and used as fuel, particularly in the villages. The foliage of mulberry is used as a fodder for cattle.

The mulberry trees are also planted in the embankment area for protection of the soil to prevent soil erosion, and mulberry trees are planted as avenue trees.

The silkworm pupae are rich in **oil content** and pupal oil is used in cosmetic industry and the remaining pupal cake is a rich source of protein suitable for poultry and fisheries.

The silkworm litter is used for bio-gas production and used as a fuel for cooking in the rural area. Thus, sericulture not only provides silk for fashionable clothing, but it also provides several very useful by-products to the human society. Therefore, sericulture sector provides opportunities to improve the livelihood opportunities of people in the rural area in developing countries.

1. *Top silk producing states in India* (no date) SATHEE. Available at: <https://sathee.prutor.ai/article/social-science/top-silk-producing-states-in-india/> (Accessed: 10 October 2024).

## SECTOR IN FOCUS: Sericulture

### Spotlight: Maharashtra's Sericulture Landscape

Maharashtra, a significant state in India's sericulture landscape, is home to a thriving silk industry that contributes to the state's economy and provides livelihood to many rural communities. The state's climate supports the cultivation of various types of silk, with a particular emphasis on mulberry and tasar silk.

The rich tradition of sericulture in Maharashtra complements the state's agricultural diversity and industrial base. The sericulture industry provides a supplementary business to the farmers and yields more than other traditional crops.

At the same time, the employment opportunities are available in the rural areas to the landless people, agricultural laborers with small landholding farmers, qualified job seekers, and women.

It is noteworthy to mention that the state produces both Mulberry and Tasar Silks; and occupies 1<sup>st</sup> position in non-traditional silk producing states and 13<sup>th</sup> among 29 silk producing states.



**Cultivation of silkworms on mulberry and Ain/Arjuna leaves in Maharashtra**

#### FROM THE POLICY

The Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy 2023-2028 for Maharashtra incentivizes the promotion of sericulture by enhancing production, marketing, and capacity-building initiatives.

One major initiative is the establishment of a Tasar tourism corridor across the Pench and Nagzira forest reserves, in partnership with the Forest Department and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC). Additionally, the state will support the creation of Paithani weavers' clusters at the village level, with each cluster consisting of at least 20 weavers.

To further strengthen the sector, a Regional Sericulture Research Station is being developed in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar with assistance from the Central Silk Board, and a Maharashtra Silk Training Institute will be established at the Grainage Centre in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar to enhance training capabilities.

The government also aims to establish private and government silk cocoon production centers, Chawki centers, and nurseries to boost silk production.

Furthermore, mulberry silk farming will be expanded by 10,000 acres over the next five years, with a target of increasing the number of Tasar beneficiaries by 2,000 during the same period.

# SUCCESS STORY: Sericulture

## Transforming Lives Through Sericulture: Mr. Amol's Journey

In the village of Mhasobachiwadi, Pune district, 36-year-old Mr. Amol Baban Chandgude found a path to prosperity through sericulture, significantly aided by the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). With a family of six, including his wife Smt. Sonali and two children, Amol struggled to sustain their livelihood from traditional crops like maize and jowar.

Amol had limited education and initially worked as a tailor, but rising living costs and school expenses made it hard to support his family. Seeking better opportunities, he joined a local sericulture program that taught him about mulberry cultivation and cocoon production. Inspired to make a change, he decided to transition to sericulture. To fund this new venture, he sold two cows and some of his wife's jewelry and took out a loan.

With his family's encouragement, Amol planted V1 category mulberry saplings and built an insect-rearing house. He managed the mulberry garden diligently, and his first batch of cocoons yielded 92 kg, selling for ₹60,000. This success motivated him to continue, and his second batch earned him ₹1,33,000. In just one year, Amol's earnings from sericulture reached ₹1,93,000, transforming his family's financial situation. MGNREGA further supported him with ₹2,63,000, allowing him to expand his operations. Now, Amol conducts four to five batches annually, significantly improving his family's lifestyle. He has purchased more land, a tractor, and built a new home. His children attend better schools, and he has begun repaying his loans.

Amol's journey exemplifies how sericulture and government schemes like MGNREGA can empower farmers. With the right resources and determination, he turned sericulture into a successful venture, inspiring others in his village. Amol has become a beacon of hope, showing that sericulture can lead to a prosperous future.



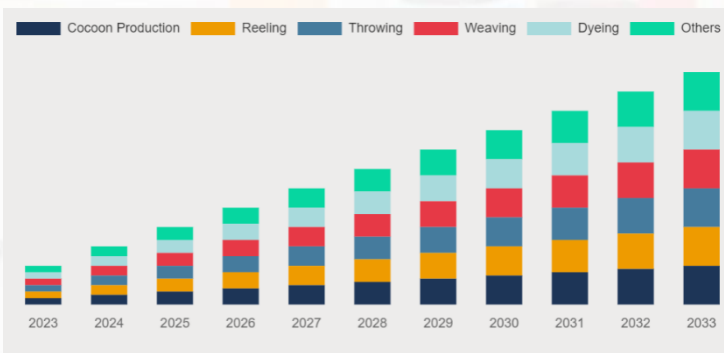
# MARKET INSIGHTS: Sericulture

## Overview

The silk market is growing due to increased demand in the textile industry, diversification of applications, and technological advancements.

The global silk [market size](#) reached US\$ 18.7 Billion in 2023. Looking forward, IMARC Group expects the market to reach US\$ 34.1 Billion by 2032, exhibiting a growth rate (CAGR) of 6.9% during 2024-2032.

The market is experiencing steady growth driven by the growing demand in the textile industry due to its unique properties, the diversification of applications, particularly in high-value sectors such as cosmetics and medical industries, and continuous technological advancements in sericulture processes. The silk market encompasses the [global trade](#) and production of silk, a luxurious and versatile natural fiber derived from the cocoons of silkworms. It includes various stages of the silk production process, from sericulture and cocoon harvesting to silk spinning, weaving, and finishing.



Graph Depicting lobal Silk Market 2024-2033 (By Process)  
Source: <https://www.custommarketinsights.com/report/silk-market/>

## Significant Growth Factors

*Increasing Demand for Luxury Textiles:* The growing affluence and changing consumer preferences have led to an increased demand for luxury textiles, with silk being highly sought after for its premium quality and luxurious feel.

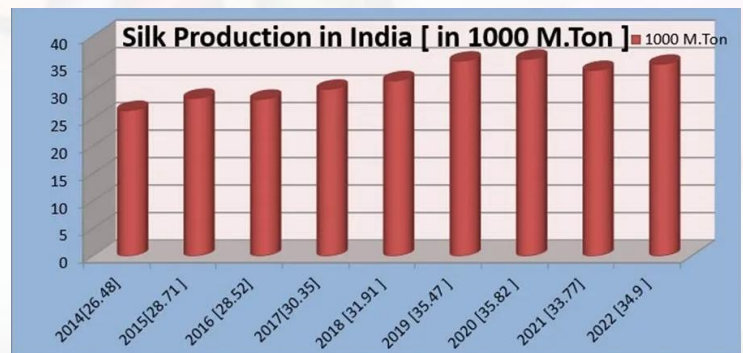
*Advancements in Sericulture Practices:* Improved breeding methods and sustainable farming practices, have resulted in higher silk yields and improved quality, driving the market growth.

*Globalization and Trade Liberalization:* The liberalization of trade policies and globalization have facilitated the expansion of silk trade across borders, enabling silk-producing countries to access new markets and cater to diverse consumer preferences.

*Rising Awareness of Sustainable Fashion:* Increasing awareness about environmental sustainability has led consumers to seek out eco-friendly fashion choices, including silk products that are produced using sustainable and ethical practices.

*Diversification of Product Offerings:* There is an opportunity for [silk producers](#) to diversify their product offerings beyond traditional textiles, including silk-based cosmetics, skincare products, and medical devices, catering to evolving consumer needs and preferences.

*Expansion into Emerging Markets:* Silk producers can capitalize on the growing demand for luxury goods in emerging markets, by expanding their presence and distribution networks in these regions and tapping into the increasing purchasing power of the rising middle class.



Source: [www.statista.com](http://www.statista.com)  
Volume of Raw Silk Production in India from 2014 to 2022  
Source: <https://shorturl.at/XLzoM>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Launch of the e-Textile Portal



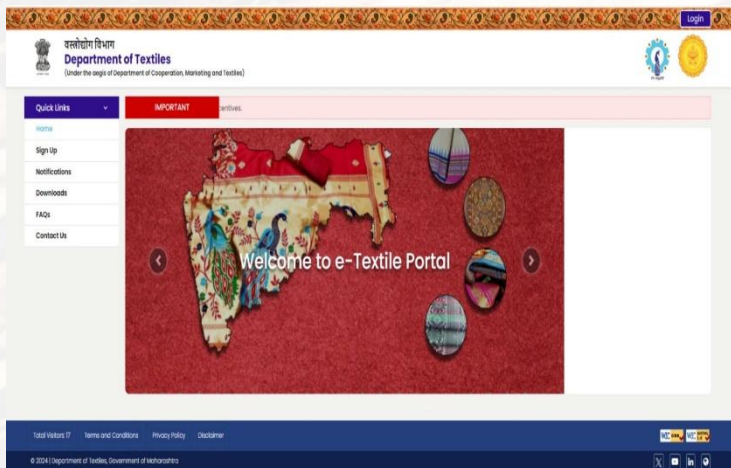
On September 24, 2024, Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde along with Hon'ble Textile Minister Shri Chandrakant (Dada) Patil officially launched the e-Textile Portal. This innovative application aims to streamline the operations of the Department of Textiles by automating key processes and enhancing information accessibility for stakeholders.



The e-Textile Portal is an integrated online platform designed specifically for the textile industry. It provides a comprehensive mechanism for textile units and industries to apply for subsidies under the Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy 2023-2028 of the Government of Maharashtra.



Developed in collaboration with ICICI Bank, this portal offers end-to-end process automation, covering the complete lifecycle of an applicant - from application submission and scrutiny to the disbursement of incentives and subsequent monitoring and reporting. It incorporates advanced features such as:- A user-friendly dashboard for quick insights,- Automated workflows to streamline operations,- Comprehensive reporting to ensure transparency and accountability.



Additionally, the system is built on a safe and secure architecture, thereby simplifying processes and ensuring alignment with evolving policy frameworks. The e-Textile Portal is poised to be a significant enabler of growth and innovation in Maharashtra's textile industry.

The launch event was graced by the presence of key dignitaries, including Hon'ble Chief Secretary Smt. Sujata Saunik, Hon'ble Secretary of the Textile Department, Shri Virendra Singh, Deputy Secretary Shri Shrikrishna Pawar, representatives from ICICI Bank, and other distinguished officials.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Inauguration of Open Silk Market



Hon'ble Textile Minister Shri Chandrakant Dada Patil, along with dignitaries including Smt. Shraddha Kocharekar, Honorable MLA Shri Subhash Babu Deshmukh, and District Collector Shri Kumar Ashirwad, inaugurated the Silk Farmers Technology Workshop and a silk information booklet in Solapur. This event aimed to promote the expansion and development of the silk industry and support local farmers.

## Reshim Ratna Awards Pune-Nagpur



Shri Pramod Vishnu Bhosale from Satara felicitated by Dr. Mahendra Dhawle, Deputy Director, Nagpur, Textile Department



Smt. Vaishali Rajesh Patil from Jalgaon felicitated by Smt. Shraddha Kocharekar, Deputy Secretary, Textile Department

The Reshim Ratna Award is presented to silk producers in Nagpur and other regions of Maharashtra, recognizing their contributions to the silk industry. To qualify for this prestigious award, producers must meet specific criteria, including being a registered silk cocoon producer with the silk office, producing a minimum of 60 kilograms of cocoons per 100 egg clusters, and having a receipt for the sale of their cocoons. Additionally, applicants must cultivate mulberry or tassar on at least one acre of land and construct a silkworm rearing house that adheres to established guidelines.

This year several awardees were felicitated by Reshim Ratna Award in Nagpur and Pune, Maharashtra. Over 20+ winners across various districts such as Jalgaon, Nashik, Mumhai, Chandrapur, Gondia, Bhandara, etc. were present.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Launch of the new Sericulture Website in presence of Hon'ble Minister



Reshim Ratna Awards held at Amravati in presence of Hon'ble Minister

## CONTACT

Mr. Shrikrishna Baburao Pawar, Deputy Secretary (Textiles) Co-operation, Marketing & Textiles Department (CMTD)  
Government of Maharashtra

Phone No. (Off.): 022-22025159

E-mail: [shrikrishna.pawar@nic.in](mailto:shrikrishna.pawar@nic.in)

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided in the newsletter, its completeness or timeliness cannot be guaranteed. The information shared is intended for general purposes only and should not be considered as legal, financial, or professional advice. The content provided is for informational purposes and should not be construed as an endorsement or promotion of any specific product, service, or organization unless explicitly stated. This newsletter may contain hyperlinks or references to external websites, documents, or resources. The Department does not have control over the content, accuracy, or availability of such external sources.