Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute organises Consultative Workshop on Sericulture Development in Ladakh

Kargil, December 09, 2025: Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute (CSR&TI), Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Galandar, Pampore, in collaboration with the University of Ladakh, organized a Consultative Workshop on "Sericulture Development in Ladakh" today at Conference Hall, Baroo, Kargil.

The workshop saw enthusiastic participation from around 100 stakeholders, including heads and representatives of all major line departments of Kargil.

The event was chaired by Shri Mohd. Jaffer Akhoon, Hon'ble Chairman / Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC Kargil, who lauded the efforts of the Central Silk Board (CSB) for introducing sericulture in Ladakh. While distributing certificates to trainees of the 45 days Intensive Bivoltine Training cum Demonstration programme, he expressed confidence that sericulture would soon emerge as a sustainable livelihood option for the people of Kargil. He also expressed gratitude to Shri P. Sivakumar, IFS, Member Secretary, Central Silk Board and Smt. Padmini Singla, IAS, Joint Secretary (Fibre), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India for taking forward the commitments made during the "Ekta Event" held at Leh in June 2025. He assured that steps would be taken to create a sericulture wing within an appropriate line department until a full-fledged sericulture department is established under LAHDC.

Shri Aga Syeed Mujtaba Mussavi, Executive Councilor (Social Welfare/Agriculture/Animal & Sheep Husbandry/ICDS), LAHDC Kargil, reaffirmed the commitment to popularize sericulture in the district and assured full support to CSB for development initiatives.

Addressing the stakeholders, Dr. Sardar Singh, Director, CSB-CSR&TI, Pampore, highlighted that under the dynamic leadership of Shri P. Sivakumar, IFS, the Central Silk Board is committed to promoting sericulture in Ladakh. He informed that CSB has been conducting training programmes in Kargil since 2016 and that the region is now well-positioned to adopt sericulture as a viable income-generating activity. He emphasized that the climatic conditions of Kargil and adjoining areas are conducive for silkworm rearing. Discussions were also held on the agro-based model of sericulture, scope for seri-tourism and integrated farming systems.

A key highlight was the participation of trained farmers who showcased cocoons harvested during their training. Their enthusiasm and readiness to take up sericulture commercially demonstrated the growing acceptance and potential of this sector. Farmers also appealed for continued support from CSB and the Government of Ladakh.

During the session, Shri Gulzar Ahmad Khan, Scientist-D, CSB, shared that over 6000 wild mulberry plants are naturally available in and around Kargil and announced CSB's plan to plant 5000 additional mulberry saplings in farmers' fields during the upcoming plantation season to strengthen the mulberry resource base.

The local coordinator of NRLM clusters assured that sericulture would soon become a key livelihood activity under NRLM. Officials from KVK Kargil, faculty of the University of Ladakh, and representatives from all line departments in Kargil also committed their full support for large-scale sericulture expansion in the region. Executive Councilors of LAHDC Kargil, senior CSB scientists, entrepreneurs, NGOs, SHGs, and trained farmers actively participated in the workshop.

The workshop concluded with a set of recommendations and a roadmap for scaling up sericulture on a commercial basis in Ladakh, marking a significant step toward livelihood generation and rural economic development in the region.

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Consultative Workshop On Development Of Sericulture In Ladakh
Organized By
Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute
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