



## **COST SUBVENTION TO YOUNG STAGE SILKWORM REARING ENTREPRENEURS AND THE CORRESPONDING SURGE IN BIVOLTINE RAW SILK PRODUCTION IN SOUTHERN INDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

National Silkworm Seed Organization (NSSO) has been offering a subvention of 15 % on the cost of bivoltine hybrid disease free layings (DFLS) when bought by the enrolled Chawki Rearing Centres (CRCs) subject to certain stipulated conditions. The paper deals with the history of the scheme spanned through three Five Year Plans, such as 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and the steady growth in the enrollment of the Registered Chawki Rearers who run the CRCs, in the number of bivoltine DFLs bought by them to distribute to their clients and in the amount given away by NSSO towards cost subvention. This study is specially focused on the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period (2012-13 to 2016-17) and the year followed. The scheme became quite popular among the CRC entrepreneurs as evidenced by the impressive growth during the past five years when the consumption of bivoltine DFLs in southern India grew by 37.91 % through this scheme and in the process, the amount given away as discount grew by 45.98 %. This growth was further correlated with the growth in bivoltine raw silk production in southern India which grew at 27.76 %. The role played by the Silkworm Seed Production Centres (SSPCs) in distribution of high quality silkworm seed and the subsequent monitoring and follow-up at the CRC and farmers' level which contributed to such remarkable growth is highlighted.

**Key words:** Bivoltine hybrids, chawki rearing centres, cost subvention, disease free layings, raw silk production.