

Magic of Indian Silk

Prelims - Current events of national and international importance| Economic and Social Development.

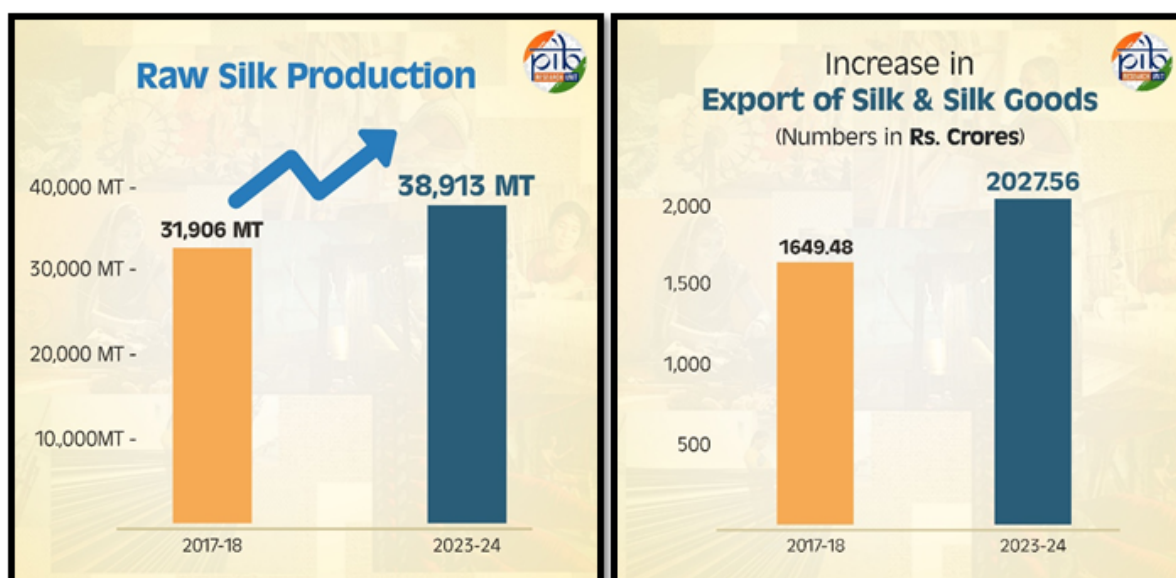
Mains (GS III) - Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.

Why in News?

According to the recent data of Ministry of Textiles, India's silk production and exports have been raised from 2017-18 to 2023-24.

- **Silk** - It is a thread made from **pure mulberry silk**, which is woven by skilled artisans.
- **Silk from silkworms** - Sericulture is the process of farming silkworms, which eat mulberry leaves to make silk.
- **Global production** - It has accounting for only 0.2 % of world's total textile production.
- **India's production** - It is the **2nd largest producer and consumer** of silk globally.
- **State wise production**
 - **Mulberry silk** - Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal.
 - **Non-mulberry silk** - Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Orissa and north-eastern states.

India's total raw silk production increased during the period 2017-24 and Exports of silk and silk goods rose during the period 2017-24.



Initiatives to Silk Development

- **Silk Samagra Scheme** - To scale up production by improving the quality and productivity of sericulture in the country.
- **Silk Samagra-2** - To improve the entire silk production process, from raising silkworms to producing quality silk fabrics.
- **Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)** - To make available quality yarn & their blends to the eligible Handloom weavers at subsidized rates.
- **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)** - To support weavers in the handloom sector, including silk fabric producers.
- **Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector Scheme (SAMARTH)** - To focus on entry-level training, upskilling and reskilling in Apparel & Garmenting, handloom, handicraft, silk, and jute.

Types of Silk in India

- **Mulberry silk** - It comes from silkworms that eat only mulberry leaves.
- **Feature** - It is soft, smooth, and shiny with a bright glow, making it perfect for luxury sarees and high-end fabrics.
- **92%** of the country's total raw silk production comes from mulberry.
- **Non-mulberry silk** - It comes from wild silkworms that feed on leaves from trees like oak, castor and arjun.
- **Feature** - It is a natural silk with less shine but is strong, durable, and eco-friendly.
- **Silk waste** - It's repurposed to create lower-quality products like silk yarn or fabric, or even recycled into new silk items.

Reference

[PIB| Magic of Indian Silk Production](#)