

# 3.FIBRE TO FABRIC

**Fibre:-** A very thin strands like structure is called fibre. In this class we have to learn about animal fibres like:- wool and silk.

## WOOL

It is the soft , wavy hair which covers the body of sheep.

**\*SOME WOOL YIELDING ANIMALS:-** Sheep, goat, yak, camel, llama and alpaca.

### **SELECTIVE BREEDING:-**

The selection of parents sheep to get the fine quality of fleece in their offsprings is called selective breeding.

### **PROCESSING OF WOOLLEN FIBRE:-**

To obtain the wool from the sheep we have to go through the following steps:-

- i} Shearing
- ii} Scouring
- iii} Sorting
- iv} Dyeing
- v} Combing
- vi} Spinning

i) Shearing-

The removal of hair of sheep along with thin layer of skin is called shearing.

ii) Scouring-

The washing of fleece to remove dirt, dust, grease...etc. is called scouring.

iii) Sorting-

The separation of fleece of a sheep according to the quality is called sorting.

## **NOTE-**

### **\*Occupational Hazard-**

The risks faced by the people in their occupation is called occupational hazard.

The sorter's job is very risky because sometimes they get infected by the bacteria called *anthrax* which cause a deadly blood disease.

iv) Dyeing-

The colouring of natural colour of fleece in artificial dyes is called dyeing.

The natural colour of fleece is black, brown and white this is why we need to go through the process of dyeing.

v}Combing-

The process of preparing the woollen fibres for spinning is called combing.

vi}Spinning-

The process of making yarns from fibres is called spinning.

## **SILK**

:-Silk is a fine, strong, and shining fibre produced by silkworms in making their cocoons. It is also known as steel fibre .

\*Sericulture-

The rearing of silkworms for obtaining silk is called sericulture.

### **HISTORY OF SILK MOTH**

Eggs -> Larva/Caterpillar/Silkworm -> Pupa ->Silk moth

:- The female silk moth lays eggs on the leaves of trees . The eggs hatch to form larvae. The silkworms feed on the leaves of mulberry tree and grow bigger in size. When the silkworms ready to enter the next stage called 'pupa' they cover their whole body with cocoons. After few days pupa develops to form silk moth.

## **\*PRODUCTION OF SILK FIBRE:-**

**It takes the following steps :-**

### **1)Rearing of LIFE silkworms to obtain cocoons-**

A female silk moth lays hundreds of eggs at a time . The farmers keep these eggs at suitable temperature and humidity under hygienic conditions. When the eggs hatch, silkworms come out of eggs. The silkworms are fed cut-up mulberry leaves. The silkworms eat day and night and grow big in size.

After about 25 to 30 days, the silkworms stop eating and ready to spin cocoons .In two or three days the silkworms enclose themselves completely inside the silken cocoons.

### **2)Processing of cocoons to obtain silk fibres-**

The cocoons are collected at one place . The pile of cocoons is used for obtaining silk fibres. The pile of cocoons is placed in hot water to separate silk fibres by the process of reeling. Now the silk fibre is converted into yarns and then into fabric.

### **\*COCOONS-**

“ The silky covering spun by the silkworm of silkmoth is called cocoon.”

### **\*REELING:-**

“ The process of taking out silkfibres from the cocoons is called reeling.”

it is done in special machines which unwind the fibres of silk from cocoons.

**\*DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SILK:-**

Some varieties of silk are:-Tassar silk , Mooga silk, Kosa silk ,and Eri silk.

**THANKS**