GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1489
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th DECEMBER, 2021

SUPPORT TO SMALL TEA GROWERS IN ASSAM

1489. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage contribution of small tea growers in the overall productivity of the country, with special reference to Assam;
(b) the kind of financial and other support Government is extending and proposes to extend towards enhancing quality production by small tea growers in Assam;
(c) the major constraints of small tea growers in their rapid growth and sustenance; and
(d) the steps taken by Government to mitigate their problems?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): The contribution of small tea growers to the total tea production in the country is estimated at 50.29% in the year 2020-21. As regards Assam, the contribution of small growers to the total tea production of the state of Assam is 46.33% during 2020-21.

(b) to (d) : The Central Government, through the Tea Board, is implementing the "Tea Development and Promotion Scheme (TDPS)'' for promotion of the Tea Sector in the country including Assam. The TDPS Scheme approved for implementation during 2021-22 to 2025-26 includes outlays inter alia for promoting small tea growers and addressing their special needs, particularly in the area of quality production through mechanization, establishing processing factories with special focus on enhancement of quality; organization of primary producer societies/self help groups, workshop & training , soil testing, organic certification , organic conversion and other measures aimed at safeguarding the quality of tea. Technical assistance is also provided through workshops and training on field management practices to the small tea growers to move them up the value chain. Workshops on climate change for the creating awareness amongst the small growers are also being organized . A Mobile App "Chai Sahyog" has been developed for use of various stakeholders including small tea growers for ensuring better communication, discovery of price, traceability, training requirement, weather forecast etc. To ensure remunerative prices for green leaf to the small tea growers District Green Leaf Price Monitoring Committee (DGLPMC) has been notified in all tea growing districts of India under the Chairmanship of District Collector/Deputy Commissioner.

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