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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 690
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd JULY, 2022

SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR SMALL TEA GROWERS

690 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

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

(a) whether Government has proposed or planned any special package for small tea growers of the country, especially growers of Assam, since its contribution to total tea production of the country is significant;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether Government proposes new schemes to attract the youth of this country, as it is employment generating, helps in afforestation and is self-supporting;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the different measures being undertaken to increase the total tea production in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The TDPS Scheme being implemented by the Tea Board 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. A separate Directorate under Tea Board, headquartered at Dibrugarh, Assam caters to the developmental needs of small tea growers.

(c) to (e): The objective of the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme being implemented by the Tea Board ‘inter-alia’ includes improvement in production, productivity and quality of the Indian teas. The Tea Boards’ Schemes are aimed at sustaining the long-term wellbeing of the tea industry and sustaining the livelihood of the workers and other stakeholders associated with the tea industry. The activities under the scheme results in employment generation. The sub-components such as setting up of the tea manufacturing units, value addition, setting up of tea boutiques etc. facilitates self-dependency in the youth associated with the tea industry.

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