

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2456
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st JULY, 2017

TEA QUALITY

2456. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the 20 per cent export clause in the 12th Plan scheme for upgrading tea quality is proving to be a dampener for the tea industry due to its restrictive nature and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of applications received by the Tea Board of India for availing the Quality Upgrade and Product Diversification scheme;
- (c) whether the number of applications received is very low in comparison to the number of applications received during the 11th Plan that had no export clause; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the rationale behind introducing such a clause and the steps undertaken by the Government to increase the number of applications?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)to (d): The objective of the mandatory 20 per cent export clause under the Quality Upgradation & Product Diversification (QU&PD) Component of 12thPlan “Tea Development & Promotion Scheme” of Tea Board, was to enhance the quality of made tea by way of giving incentives for modernization of tea manufacturing units, warehouses, units dealing with value addition of tea, Organic tea production and production of Orthodox/Green tea with the ultimate goal of enhancement of export of Indian Tea. During the 12thPlan period total 439 number of applications were received by Tea Board as against 1596 number of applications received during the 11thPlan under the QU&PD component.

Based on the evaluation report of the 12th Plan scheme, the QU&PD component has been appropriately modified in the Medium Term Frame Work proposal for the years 2017-18 to 2019-20.
