

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2822
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th JULY, 2019

ORGANIC TEA FARMING

2822. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

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

- (a) whether the Tea Board of India proposes to accord priority for the promotion and development of organic tea farming in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the climate of North Eastern States, particularly in the State of Assam is best for organic tea farming and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Tea Board has taken any action for promotion of organic tea farming in Assam by facilitating certification, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of licenses issued to the tea farmers/tea gardens of Assam and the funds allocated for promotion of organic tea farming in North Eastern Region during the last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): Yes Sir. The Tea Board has accorded due priority under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme (TD&PS) for the promotion and development of organic tea farming in the country. The activity along with assistance provided are given in the following table:

S.No.	Activity	Assistance
1.	Organic Certification (Plantation)	50% of cost of certification including renewals with ceiling of Rs.2.00 lakhs per certificate.
2.	Organic certification (Factory)	50% of cost of certificate with ceiling of Rs.2.00 Lakhs per factory per financial year.
3.	Organic Conversion	Rs.2.00 lakhs per ha for small tea growers

Source: Tea Board

(b): The soil and climate of the North Eastern Region, particularly the State of Assam, is well suited for growing tea. The state-wise details of organic cultivation in the North Eastern States is given in the following table:

Sl no	States	Number of Organic Tea Gardens and Small Holdings	Area of Holdings (Hectare)
1	Assam	45	3439.87
2	Mizoram	3	74.00
3	Nagaland	3	67.90
4	Tripura	15	93.56
5	Meghalaya	3	62.47
	Total	69	3737.80

Source: Tea Board

(c) & (d): Tea Board is providing financial assistance for the promotion of organic tea under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme. Financial assistance of Rs.2.00 Lakh per ha. is provided to the small tea growers for conversion to organic farming. The State wise details during the last 03 years is given in the following table:

Financial assistance under scheme TD&PS				
State	Year	Activity	Physical	Financial (Rs. In Lakhs)
Assam	2016-17	Replanting in organic gardens	1 Garden*	1.02
		Orthodox subsidy to organic gardens	3 Gardens	7.44
	2017-18	Replanting in organic gardens	3.17 ha	4.71
		Orthodox subsidy to organic gardens	5 Gardens	17.33
	2018-19	Replanting in organic garden	17.04 ha	47.68
		Orthodox subsidy to organic gardens	2 Gardens	9.41
		Setting up organic mini tea factory	1 Factory	11.73
		Setting up organic big tea factory	1 Factory	143.56
		Promotional event for organic tea garden	1 Event	0.50
		Organic Self Help Group (SHG) (22 members)	1 SHG	7.25
Tripura	2018-19	Organic Certification	1 Garden	0.08
Total				250.70
Registration / certificates issued under Control Order				
Assam	2016-17	Setting up organic big tea factory	1 Factory	Registration issued
Meghalaya	2018-19	Setting up organic mini tea factory	1 Factory	Certificate issued
Total = 2				

*2nd installment.

Source: Tea Board
