

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5428
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05th APRIL, 2023

NEW TEA ACT

5428. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:

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

- (a) the details of the reforms which have been undertaken for the promotion and development of the Tea Sector in India including current status of the proposed New Tea Act;
- (b) whether the Government has completed stakeholder consultations on the new Tea Act;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the rationale for increasing the role of the tea-board in marketing and promotion; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to reform and modernize the tea sector?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

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

(a) to (e): The reforms undertaken by the Government to promote and develop the Tea Sector, include the following:

- (i) Small tea growers which contribute around 52% of the total tea produced in India have been made the focal point in the developmental schemes for financial assistance.
- (ii) As part of ease of doing business, the periodicity of renewal of registration/licenses have been raised and format of such applications have been simplified.
- (iii) Grant of financial assistance and registration/licenses have been made online.
- (iv) Rules of Tea auction have been reformed for better price discovery
- (v) The strength of manpower of Tea Board has been reworked to reduce establishment cost.

The draft Tea (Promotion and Development) Bill, 2022 aims at reorientation of Tea Board to play a more facilitative role and engage in overall promotion and development of the tea sector (including promotion of Indian tea in both domestic and international markets). The draft Tea (Promotion and Development) Bill, 2022 was placed in public domain (website of the Department of Commerce and the Tea Board) for three months with effect from 10.01.2022 and comments/suggestions from 101 stakeholders, including State Governments, associations, organizations and general public were received. Further, Inter-Ministerial Consultations have been undertaken.
