GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 585 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

PLANTATION LABOUR

585. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether the Government has the details of the plantations that have closed down or is under financial stress in Kerala including Idukki, if so, the details thereof during the last ten years;
- (b)whether the Government reopen the closed down plantations including tea plantations for helping the plantation labour in Kerala, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c)whether the Government allocate a Package to save the tea plantation sector and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d)the details of the provisions made to ensure the welfare of plantation labourers/workers under the Central Wage Board;
- (e)whether Central Wage Board has revised its policies/decisions from time to time and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f)whether wages are not revised to meet the requirement of the changing needs of the labourers and if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) & (b): As per Tea Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, the following Tea Estates(T.E.) are presently closed in the State of Kerala including Idukki:
 - (i) Peermade & Lonetree T.E., Idukki, Kerala
 - (ii) Kottamala & Bonami T.E., Idukki, Kerala
 - (iii) Bonnacord T.E., Trivandrum, Kerala

The status of closed down tea gardens in Kerala along their current status is at Annexure. There is no proposal to identify plantations which have been closed down in respect of Rubber & Coffee plantations.

- (c): With an outlay of Rs. 967.78 crore, Tea Development & Promotion Scheme is implemented through Tea Board for the 15th Finance Commission (2021-22 to 2025-26) for holistic development of the tea industry.
- (d) & (e): Welfare measures for plantation workers are implemented by concerned State Government in line with the provisions of The Plantation Labour Act, 1951. At present, there is no wage board in existence for plantation sector.
- (f): The wage revision takes place by tripartite agreement through the process of collective bargaining.

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Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question for 06.02.2023

Sl.	Name of the	State	District	Date of Closure	Current status
No.	Tea Estates		71.11:		
1	Kottamala &Bonami	Kerala	Idukki	October, 2002	Reopened on 11.06.2007 Again closed on 23.12.2013/
2	Vagamon	Kerala	Idukki	09.06.2002	11.10.2014. Functional
3	Mungyamullai	Kerala	Idukki	09.01.2005	Functional
4	Thengakal	Kerala	Idukki	10.01.2005	Functional
5	Pambanar	Kerala	Idukki	09.01.2005	Functional
6	Koliekanam	Kerala	Idukki	January, 2000	Functional
7	Pasumullai	Kerala	Idukki	January, 2002	Functional
8	Granby	Kerala	Idukki	31.01.2002	Functional
9	Mount	Kerala	Idukki	13.10.2000	Functional
10	Tungmullay	Kerala	Idukki	January, 2002	Functional
11	Nellikai	Kerala	Idukki	11.01.2005	Functional
12	Bonaccord	Kerala	Trivandum	11.04.2007	Reopened on 03.12.2007 Again closed on
					05.03.2015.
13	Methanathu	Kerala	Idukki	12.11.2001	Functional
14	Vengakotta	Kerala	Wayanad	06.10.2004	Functional
15	Peermade & Lonetree	Kerala	Idukki	01.04.2016	Closed
