

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1714
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/12/2023

DRAFT BILLS FOR TEA AND SPICES

1714. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government held discussions with stakeholders to finalize draft bills for tea and spices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also true that the ongoing schemes shall continue with financial allocations for plantation commodities, however, the revised schemes are under consideration by the Government, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the schemes would address the issues faced by the sectors and give thrust to value addition of the commodities; and
- (e) if so the details thereof?

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 (b): Yes, the draft 'Tea (Promotion and Development) Bill' and 'Spices (Promotion and Development) Bill' were placed in the public domain/website of the Department of Commerce and Boards for 3 months from 10.01.2022 to 09.04.2022 for seeking comments/suggestions from stakeholders including State Governments, associations, organizations and general public. Further, Inter-Ministerial Consultations have also been carried out for the above two draft bills.

(c) to (e): Plantation Commodity Boards viz. Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board and Spices Board are implementing schemes namely "Tea Development and Promotion Scheme", "Integrated Coffee Development Project", "Sustainable and inclusive development of Natural

Rubber Sector” and “Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom” respectively, which are currently ongoing.

The revised schemes, which are being proposed include, inter-alia, activities for improvement in production, productivity, quality upgradation, research, promotion of export, brand promotion etc through provisions of financial and technical assistance through the Boards to stakeholders of respective sectors. The proposed schemes also include specific programmes for value addition such as assistance for setting up of blending and packaging units for value addition of tea, support to coffee curing works & roasting and grinding units, technological and infrastructural interventions for processing of spices etc. The consultation process for finalising the proposed schemes has been completed.
