

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 564**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019**

**DARJEELING TEA**

564. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is shifting the quality control lab earmarked for testing the quality of Darjeeling Tea to Jalpaiguri;
- (b) if so, the manner in which the shifting of Quality Control lab from the hills to distant Jalpaiguri would help to control the quality of “Darjeeling Tea” which enjoys a unique “Geographical Indicator” status under the World Trade Organization; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to protect Darjeeling Tea from cheap tea of other regions, labelled and sold as Darjeeling Tea?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration.

(c): For protection of Darjeeling Tea from cheap tea of other regions, Tea Board has put in place Darjeeling Trade Chain Integrity System wherein permission from Tea Board is required to deal/sale Darjeeling Tea. As on date, each packet sold as Darjeeling Tea has to mandatorily source 100% teas from Darjeeling only. Additionally, Tea Board has issued labelling guidelines for packers who intend to sell Darjeeling Tea.

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