

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) A Group on Environmental measures and International Trade has been working in GATT since 1991 to explore the interface between the two areas

A draft decision is being discussed for the Ministerial Conference of the Uruguay Round in April 1994 to draw up a programme of work to identify the relationship between trade measures and environmental measures to promote sustainable development and to make recommendations on whether and modifications of the provisions of the multi-lateral trading system are required

Area under tea plantation

1535 DR SAKSHIJI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the total area under tea plantation in hectares at present in the country,

(b) whether the Government have increased the area to boost tea export, and

(c) if so, the area which has been brought under tea plantation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) The total area under tea plantation in India is estimated at around 4,23,000 hectares in 1992

(b) Tea Board has been encouraging entrepreneurs for undertaking activities of extension planting by providing long term loans and interest subsidy on bank loans under these schemes being operated by the Board since 1962 in order to increase production and also generate sufficient exportable surplus

(c) During the course of last three decades nearly 88 thousand hectares of land has been brought under extension planting of tea in various tea growing States

Export of flowers

1536 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether different kinds of flowers are being exported to different countries

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether Indian flowers particularly mogras have great demand in the middle-east and Gulf countries, and

(d) if so the steps taken to increase the export of such flowers to those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b) Exports of cut flowers during 1991-92 and 1992-93 were as follows

| Year | Exports (in Rs lakhs) |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 1991-92 | 683 30 |
| 1992-93 | 844 37 |

Source Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority