

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2442
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
CLOSING DOWN OF TOBACCO BOARD
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the date on which the Tobacco Board was constituted ;
- (b) the manner in which the Tobacco Board is helping the tobacco growers of Karnataka;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to close down the Tobacco Board and to allow private parties to deal with tobacco ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- a): The Tobacco Board was constituted by an Act of Parliament, the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 (4 of 1975) and it came into existence from 1.1.1976.
- b): The Tobacco Board is helping the FCV tobacco growers in India including growers of Karnataka by arranging timely supply of inputs such as fertilizers and coal to the registered farmers at reasonable price, assisting farmers in obtaining crop loans and short term loans from bank, assisting growers in insuring tobacco curing barns with Insurance Companies, ensuring proper grading of the produce so that farmers obtain remunerative prices, arranging sale of FCV tobacco at auction platforms established by the Tobacco Board fixing a Minimum Guarantee Price in consultation with traders and growers, inducing an element of competition among the buyers and ensuring timely payment to the growers through post dated cheques.
- c) : There is no proposal to close down the Tobacco Board.
- d): Does not arise.