

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1496
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2000
TEA PRODUCTION IN NON TRADITIONAL STATES
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase tea production in the non-traditional States;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this direction in Orissa State; and
- (c) the hectares of land brought under tea plantation in that State particularly in Keonjhar districts so far ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a): Yes, Sir. Tea Board is implementing a scheme called New Area Development Scheme during the Ninth Plan period for encouraging tea cultivation in identified non-traditional areas including Orissa where the soil and agro climatic conditions are found to be suitable for growing tea.

(b)&(c): Surveys were conducted by the Tea Board in the districts of Kalahandi, Phulbani and Keonjhar to assess the suitability of the areas for tea cultivation in the State of Orissa. So far 213 ha. of land has been brought under tea cultivation in the Keonjhar District. The State Government has plans to bring 1000 ha. of land under tea cultivation for the benefit of small tribal farmers. An area of 100 ha. has already been identified by the State Govt. for immediate tea planting.