

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3913

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006

PLANTATION SECTOR

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether plantation industry has been incurring losses for last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government proposes to include the plantation industry in the 11th Five Year Plan for providing employment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has worked out a comprehensive financial package for reviving the ailing plantation sector;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- g) the time by which the said Plan is likely to be implemented?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b): No Sir. Though, the Plantation sector has always witnessed cyclical price movement as the prices are determined by the market forces of demand and supply, the prices have shown a significant improvement in the current year.
- (c) & (d): Plantation sector essentially is a labour intensive sector. It has been given adequate developmental support through plan funds for various schemes through Commodity Boards.
- (e)to(g): In order to tackle the problem of declining productivity on account of ageing bushes, Government has taken sector-wise initiatives for replantation & rejuvenation of old bushes for long term development of the plantation sectors. A Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) for renewal of old tea plantations is under consideration of Government.A similar scheme for Coffee and Spices is proposed for the XIth Plan.