

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2960
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004
EFFECT OF ITC SHRINKAGE ON TOBACCO FARMERS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether ITC has decided to shrink the share of its tobacco business as a proportion of its total business in the long run;
- (b) if so, whether this decision of the company will affect the future of the thousands of the tobacco farmers in the country;
- (c) if so, whether Government is considering to have an alternative arrangements of the Tobacco farmers and also provide alternative employment; and
- (d) if so, what are the concrete steps Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

- (a) Available information suggests that ITC has not taken any such decision.
- (b) to (d) Do not arise.