

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1662  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010  
SPECIAL PURPOSE TEA FUND  
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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of amount released to the Tea gardens under the Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) during the last two years;
- (b) the number of Tea gardens renovated under the scheme, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for export promotion and value addition of Tea and related products?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a): The funds released to tea gardens under the Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) by way of loan and subsidy during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 were Rs.16.01 crores and Rs.35.36 crores respectively. During the current year 2009-10 (up to December, 2009), Rs.25.07 crores was released to the tea gardens under SPTF.

(b): The number of tea gardens benefited from SPTF adds up to 707. This includes Assam (395), West Bengal (218), Tamil Nadu (39), Kerala (33), Tripura (19) and Karnataka (3).

(c): Under the 11th Plan schemes, Government is promoting export of Tea through Tea Board by supporting its promotional campaigns, Buyer Seller Meets, Tea Tasting Sessions, Trade Fairs, International Conventions and incentive to exporters. This apart, value addition of tea is encouraged by way of providing subsidy for

(i) replacement of old and worn out machinery,

(ii) procurement of processing machinery for orthodox tea in 100% Crush, Tear and Curl (CTC) factories and creating additional infrastructure for cleaning, blending, colour sorting, packaging, etc..