

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:459

ANSWERED ON:05.09.2011

TEA EXPORTS

Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

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

- (a) whether there has been instances of closure of tea estates and tea processing factories in the country in the recent past;
- (b) if so, whether the total production and export of tea are likely to decline during the current year as compared to the last year and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken to boost the production of tea including re-plantation and rejuvenation of old and senile plantations and tea processing factories;
- (d) whether the Government has introduced any schemes for providing financial assistance and training to the small tea growers in the major tea producing States including West Bengal; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the targets fixed, achieved and the total expenditure incurred so far under these schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.459 FOR ANSWER ON 5TH SEPTEMBER 2011 REGARDING "TEA EXPORTS"

(a): No, Madam. There have been no reports of closure of tea estates and tea processing factories during the last three years.

(b): The details of production and exports of tea during 2011 as compared to 2010 are as under:-

(Quantity in Million Kgs.)

Year	Production	Exports
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2010 (up to June) (Estimated)	338.97	90.72
2011 (up to June) (Estimated)	358.32	74.56
Increase/decrease	5.71%	-17.81%

The estimated production has increased. There has been a decline in estimated exports up to June 2011 as compared to the corresponding period of 2010. However, the final quantum of production and exports would emerge after completion of the second half of the current calendar year.

(c): Government has set up a Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) in January 2007 for extending financial assistance for uprooting and replanting/rejuvenation of old tea bushes for improving tea production. Financial assistance is also provided for factory modernisation, value addition and quality certification.

(d) and (e): Yes, Madam. Financial Assistance to small tea growers in all the tea growing States in the country including West Bengal is provided for new planting, formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Training. The details of targets fixed, achieved and the total expenditure incurred from 2007-08 to 2010-11 are as under:-

Sl.No.	Activities	Physical and Financial achievements during 2007-08 to 2010-11
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Target Achievement Expenditure incurred
(Rs. in Crores)

1 New Planting (Hectare)	4250	3084	16.15
2 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of small growers (Nos)	145	167	1.76
3 Training of Small Tea Growers and Workers (nos.)	8000	37191	6.25#

= including training of big growers, managers, supervisors and trainers of SHGs.