

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6108
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012
ROLE OF TEA BOARD
Toppo Shri Joseph

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

- (a) whether the Tea Board in country predict overall development of the Tea sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Board has been able to ensure better market rate to tea growers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Tea Board, set up under the Tea Act, 1953, is charged with the responsibility of overall development of the Tea Sector. The primary functions as specified in the Tea Act, 1953 include regulating the production and extent of cultivation of tea; improving the quality of tea; promoting cooperative efforts among growers and manufacturers of tea; encouraging scientific, technological and economic research; regulating the sale and export of tea; increasing the consumption in India and elsewhere, registering and licensing of manufacturers, brokers, tea waste dealers and persons engaged in the business of blending tea; improving the marketing of tea in India and elsewhere; securing better working conditions and the provisions and improvement of amenities and incentives for workers; collection and dissemination of statistical information, etc. The Tea Board is, accordingly, implementing various plan schemes to perform the entrusted functions.

(c) & (d): For ensuring an equitable sharing of sale price of made tea between the growers and the manufacturers, a Price Sharing Formula (PSF) has been notified by the Tea Board. As per this formula, sale price of made tea has to be shared between the growers and the factories in the ratio prescribed for each tea growing State, e.g., the ratio is 65:35 in Assam and 58:42 in West Bengal.