

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2757  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009  
PROBLEMS OF SMALL TEA GROWERS  
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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the share of small tea growers in the total tea production in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details regarding production of tea by small tea growers during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up Self Help Groups (SHGs) to address the problems being faced by small growers; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) : The details of share of small tea growers in the total tea production in the country of the major States, are as under:-

State	% share in the total tea production in India
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Assam	10.13
West Bengal(Dooars-Terai)	6.16
Tamil Nadu(Nilgiris)	8.65
Kerala	0.20
All India	25.43

(b) : The details regarding production of tea by small tea growers, State-wise, are as under:-

State	Production (in'000kgs)
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Assam	99511
West Bengal	60532
Tripura	535
Arunachal Pradesh	162
Manipur	47
Nagaland	141
Uttaranchal	156
Himachal Pradesh	397
Bihar	1087
Tamil Nadu	84990
Kerala	1942
Karnataka	214
ALL INDIA	249714

(c) and (d): In order to mitigate the problem of the small growers, Government is according priority for the development of small holdings in all the tea growing states. Under the ongoing plan schemes of the Tea Board, the focus is on encouraging the small tea growers to form Self Help Groups (SHGs). For availing the financial support, each SHG is required to have a minimum membership of 50 small growers and the extent of tea area not less than 50 acres(20 Hectares). The financial support extended include

(i) 100% grant for setting up leaf collection centers, storage godowns, purchasing leaf weighing scales, leaf carry bags;

(ii) transport vehicles 50% of the cost;

(iii) revolving grant @Rs.10,000 per ha for meeting the cost of field inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, sprayers, pruning machines etc.;

(iv) assistance@40% of the actual cost subject to a ceiling limit of Rs.25 lakh per factory to establish mini tea processing factories

and

(v) Assistance for organising a special training on modern aspects of tea growing for selected members from each SHG. New planting has been done in 1538.27 ha, 82 SHGs have been formed and 1894 growers have been trained to provide extension service to other growers till September 2009 of the 11th Five Year Plan.