

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5104
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2015
AMENDMENT IN TEA ACT
Maragatham Smt. K.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the 1953, Tea Act to give more teeth to the Tea Board of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Tea Board has sought powers to monitor the working of tea gardens, making its approach more direct and proactive than the present reactive attitude; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): The Tea Act was enacted in 1953 with the objective of controlling the tea industry pursuant to relevant international agreements and developing the industry as well as production and marketing of tea. As the sector has undergone several changes since inception of the Tea Act, 1953, the Law Commission in its 159th Report has, inter alia, recommended amendment of the Tea Act, 1953.

(c) & (d): The Government undertook an exercise for consulting stakeholders, and obtaining their views on the amendments to the Tea Act, 1953 including the provisions related to monitoring the working of tea gardens. The interests and views of all stakeholders is taken into account in finalizing the amendments.