

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1372

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015

Development of Tea Industry

Ram Shri Janak;Teli Shri Rameswar

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

- a) whether the Government has any plan for development of Tea Industry in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a Tea Auction Centre at Dibrugarh in Assam and if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- c) whether the Government has held any meeting with the stakeholders of the Tea Industry especially with those pertaining to the tea auction segment and the small tea growers; and
- d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): Having regard to the need to ensure overall development of the Tea industry in the country, Government has approved Tea Development and Promotion Scheme for implementation during the XII plan period with financial outlay of Rs.1425 Crore. The Scheme has various components namely Plantation Development, Quality Up-gradation and Product Diversification including Orthodox Production, Market Promotion – Domestic and International, Research and Development, Human Resource Development, Development of Small Growers, and National Programme for Tea Regulation.

(b): There is no proposal, at present, to set up Tea Auction Center at Dibrugarh in Assam.

( c ) & ( d ) : A consultation with stakeholders of tea sector including representatives of small tea growers, large tea estates, buyers, dealers, auctioneers of tea, etc. was held at Guwahati on 13.10.2014. Further meetings were held in Kolkata on 17.7.2015 and 26.11.2015 to discuss inter alia, issues relating to mandatory sale of tea through public auction and changes needed in the procedures and norms governing tea auctions. Following the consultations, the Tea Marketing Control Order, 2003 has been amended to provide a minimum quantum of mandatory sale of manufactured teas through public auctions. The rules for Pan India auction system have also been prepared in light of the feedback received during the consultations.

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