

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4331
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
PROMOTION OF TEA INDUSTRY
Kumar Shri Shanta

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to declare tea as `national drink` with a view to promote tea industry in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government has received representations from some quarters seeking to declare tea as the national drink of India. Based on consultation with a cross section of plantation sector and taking into account the views expressed by various stakeholders including the State Governments on the relative importance and role of competing beverages and drinks, it has been decided that declaring one particular beverage as 'national drink' may adversely impact on the growth of beverage industry as a whole.