

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3292  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014  
DECLINE IN COFFEE AND TEA PRICES  
Kamaraaj Dr. K.;Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of steep decline in prices of coffee and tea in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating its average price during the last three years;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to compensate for the losses of produce of small scale tea and coffee planters due to non-procurement;
- (d) whether the Government proposes any moratorium withdrawal of tea plantation tax and land tax to help the tea planters make good for their losses suffered on account of drastic reduction of tea prices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The auction prices fetched for Tea so far indicate that there is no steep decline in auction prices. The Coffee prices have been stable after a fall in 2012-13 and 2013-14 in the prices of Arabica and Robusta respectively. The average prices for Coffee and Tea during last three years are given as under:

Year	Coffee		Tea	
	(Rs./kg)	Auction	average price	(Rs./Kg)
	Arabica	Robusta	Plantation	Cherry
	'A'	'AB'		
2011-12	270.37	113.51	103.94	
2012-13	192.02	144.78	127.91	
2013-14	194.14	122.16	126.12	
2014-15	281.49	148.14	132.45	

(Till Nov.)

(c): Government has taken steps that include, inter alia, fixation of minimum green leaf price payable to small tea growers on the basis of auction price realized in preceding month and monitoring by a District Level Price Monitoring Committee (DLPMC). As regards coffee, no losses on account of non-procurement have been reported.

(d) & (e): Question does not arise as no drastic reduction of tea prices has taken place.