

Tea production expansion scheme

†1025. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce tea production expansion scheme throughout the country in order to increase tea production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of the States wherein the tea production expansion scheme and the potential thereof have been considered during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) In order to increase tea production under the ongoing 'Tea Plantation Development Scheme' of Tea Board, subsidy is provided to the small holdings in the hilly areas and the North Eastern States for new planting @ 25% of the unit cost subject to the area to be planted by an individual grower not exceeding 4 hectares.

During the last 3 financial years, about 2549.76 hectares have been brought under new planting in the small holdings located in the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Tripura.

Export of Darjeeling Tea

†1026. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India in present world tea market;
- (b) the details of quantity of Darjeeling tea exported during the current year along with the monetary value thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that other private companies are trying to run their business by using the trade mark of Darjeeling tea; and
- (d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) India is the largest producer of Black Tea as well as the largest consumer of tea in the world. India produces 25% of total world production and consumes

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.