

#### New guidelines for arms licences in Delhi

†\*352. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to extend the validity of arms licences in Delhi, the Ministry has issued new guidelines superseding the guidelines issued in 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of guidelines in place at present in Delhi for extending the validity of arms licences across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs has revised the Arms policy in 2010 which has been circulated to all State Governments on 6.4.2010. In pursuance of this revised policy, the Government of NCT of Delhi has issued revised guidelines on 8.7.2010 which, *inter-alia*, include criteria on extension of area validity of Arms licences in supersession of their earlier guidelines of 2009. According to the guidelines, all India validity to the categories mentioned below may be allowed for three years, after which it shall be reconsidered by the State Government based on the need and area validity can either be reduced or allowed to continue for another three years:

(i) Sitting Union Ministers/MP

(ii) Personnel of Military, Para Military

(iii) Officers of All India services

(iv) Officers with liability to serve anywhere in India, and

(v) Sports persons

Details of documentary evidence required to be submitted by the applicants have been mentioned in the guidelines.

Request for grant of All India validity to arms licences for the categories mentioned above will be approved at the level of Principal Secretary/Secretary (Home) of the Government of the NCT of Delhi at the state level. In all the cases not covered under the categories mentioned above for all India

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

validity, prior approval of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will be taken if there is sufficient justification to allow area extension for All India. In such cases also all India validity may be allowed for three years and shall be reconsidered after three years by the State Governments with prior concurrence of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### **Clearing backlog of subsidies to tea industries**

\*353. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has been urged to clear the sizable backlog of subsidies to the tea industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India's bias towards Crush, Tear, Ourl (CTC) tea had led to a steady erosion of its international market; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Tea Board has reported a backlog of around Rs. 90 crores on account of various development schemes being implemented for the tea sector. The Current year's Plan allocation of Tea Board has been enhanced to Rs.145 crores from Rs. 133 crores last year and out of this Rs. 72.80 crores released to Tea Board which will help in reducing the backlog.

(c) and (d) India is pre-dominantly a producer of CTC teas which largely cater to domestic demand. The Government of India is providing incentives for the production of orthodox tea which is mainly exported. During the last three years, the export of tea has risen both in terms of quantity as well as in value terms as may be seen from the statement given below :-

Year	Quantity (In million Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)
2007-08	185.32	1888.68
2008-09	190.64	2381.79
2009-10*	200.24	2721.78

\*-Estimated

#### **NHs in Haryana**

\*354. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: