

(c) whether besides its large quotient of fixed costs, from manure to herbicides and wages, the industry needs infrastructural help in expanding irrigation canals; and

(d) whether Government would consider increase in outlay for Tea Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Tea production during the months of April and May, 2014 declined by 30.72 million Kilograms (kgs.) compared to the production during the corresponding period of 2013. However, the production during January to March 2014 had gone up by 8.37 million kgs compared to corresponding period of 2013. Most of the tea growing regions have received good rainfall during June thereby increasing the prospect of making good the shortfall during the ensuing peak cropping months.

(b) The total budgetary support for plantations including tea, coffee, rubber and spices was Rs. 471.81 crores in 2013-14 against Rs. 520.17 crores in 2012-13.

(c) Strengthening of irrigation infrastructure plays a crucial role in enhancing the capacity of the tea industry to cope with ill effects of climate change and prolonged dry spells.

(d) Government is committed to providing support to the Tea Board through adequate financial outlays for carrying out its mandated functions.

Facilitating export of value added marine food products

267. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the various measures taken by Government to facilitate the export of value added marine food products and fishery products in India, particularly in coastal Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala;

(b) the details of various measures taken by the Central Government to promote the production and export of the value added fishery and other marine food products in the country; and

(c) the funds provided so far for various States/Union Territories to increase and improve the infrastructure facilities and fish drying yards in all these above said places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The Government has taken various measures to promote the production and facilitate exports of value added marine food products and fishery products in the country including coastal Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. These are:

- (i). Technology Upgradation Scheme for Marine Products (TUSMP),
- (ii). Financial assistance for acquisition of machinery for tuna cannery/processing of value added tuna product.
- (iii). Financial assistance for Chilled Tuna for export,
- (iv). Interest subsidy assistance for seafood units to facilitate upgradation,
- (v). Development Assistance for export of Ornamental/Aquarium Fishes/Live Aquarium Plants, and
- (vi). Sea Freight assistance scheme etc.

(c) Several forms of Financial assistance have been extended by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to different States/Union Territories for improving the infrastructure facilities for marine products. These are as under:

- (i). Scheme for Technology Upgradation for Marine Products,
- (ii). Large cold storages for storing fish and fishery products,
- (iii). Financial Assistance for setting up of modern Ice Plants/renovation of the existing Ice plants,
- (iv). Distribution of insulated fish boxes at subsidised costs etc.

The details of funds provided under different Schemes to Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala during the last three years to increase and improve the infrastructure facilities is as under:

	(₹ In lakh)								
	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
	Kerala	Andhra Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Andhra Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Andhra Pradesh	Tamil Nadu
Technology Upgradation for Marine Products	185	152.08	439.9	0	214.14	81.7	100	356.02	149.5
Large cold storage for storing fish and fishery products	43.6	84.45	91.25	0	115.04	0	96.99	51.34	21.72
Financial Assistance for setting up of modern Ice plants/ renovation of the existing Ice plants	0	0	13.86	0	0	0	0	0	8.35
Distribution of insulated fish boxes at subsidised costs	8.05	0.95	3.81	4.11	1.19	0	3.11	2.89	0

Written Answers to

[9 July, 2014]

Unstarred Questions