

Production of tea

†602. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise and quantum-wise production of tea in the country;
- (b) the name of the States where tea of high quality is being produced;
- (c) whether foreign currency is earned through tea export, the details of last three financial years thereof;
- (d) the manner in which the States are being promoted to earn more foreign currencies; and
- (e) whether the proposals sent by the States to enhance tea production in future would be accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN) : (a) The estimated tea production State-wise and quantum-wise for the financial year 2014-15 is as under:

State	Quantity (M.kgs.)*
Assam	585.36
West Bengal	324.07
Tamil Nadu	166.38
Kerala	66.90
Karnataka	6.73
Others	24.56
TOTAL	1174.00

* Provisional, subject to revision

(b) India produces some of the world's finest teas like Darjeeling Tea in West Bengal, Assam Tea in Assam, Nilgiris Tea in Tamil Nadu and Kangra Tea in Himachal Pradesh which are famous for their delicate flavor, strength and brightness.

(c) Indian teas are exported worldwide and earn valuable foreign currency. Details of tea exports and the foreign currency earned during 2011-12 to 2014-15 (April-February) are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Qty. (M.Kgs)	Value in ₹ crs.	Value in Million US\$
2011-12	214.35	3304.82	690.14
2012-13	216.23	4005.93	735.90
2013-14	225.76	4509.09	746.46
2014-15 (Apr-Feb)*	180.05	3485.71	571.23

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(d) The single-origin teas grown in specific States and regions of India have unique characteristics and have large potential to contribute to the generation of foreign exchange from sale of such teas. State Governments of tea growing States which are represented on the Tea Board are regularly consulted while finalizing the marketing strategy for tea. Producers and growers of tea in the tea growing States also receive substantial financial and technical assistance from the Tea Board as part of the Tea Development and Promotion Scheme for producing and marketing tea.

(e) Tea Board regularly accepts proposals and applications from the growers and producers of tea in all States and assists them under the Tea Development and Promotion Scheme for undertaking activities such as rejuvenation, pruning, infilling, uprooting and replanting of old tea areas, extension planting, quality upgradation and product diversification, value-addition, quality certification, changing of the product mix, including Orthodox Tea Production.

Establishment of industrial clusters

†603. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the proposed industrial clusters established/to be established in the country and the amount allocated for them during the last two years;

(b) the respective shares of small and medium industries in these groups;

(c) whether Government will provide modern technology to the above industrial units to expedite their growth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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