

and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in global markets over the next few years.

So far as tea is concerned, a package of Special Tea Term Loan (STTL) has been announced recently which envisages restructuring/repurchasing of outstanding term/working capital loans in the tea sector with repayment over 5 to 7 years and a moratorium of 1 year. The STTL also provides for working capital upto Rs. 2 lakhs at a rate not exceeding 9% to small growers. The Government has issued orders regarding implementation of a Price Subsidy Scheme for small tea growers for a period of four months from February to May 2004. Tea Board is also implementing a price sharing formula between small tea growers and manufacturers of made tea w.e.f. 1.4.2004. A special fund has also been set up out of collections by way of additional duty of excise of Re. 1 per kg. on tea for the development, modernization and rehabilitation of tea plantation sector.

The Govt. of India has also set up a Price Stabilization Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore for the benefit of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco growers.

Wheat export

7. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the surplus wheat available for export during the year 2004-05;

(b) the details of the surplus wheat exported to various countries during the last three years; and

(c) the value of the foreign exchange earned in Indian currency during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) There are no estimates of the surplus wheat available for exports during the year 2004-05. However, during April-May 04, 8.56 lakh tonnes of wheat has been released from Central Pool stocks for humanitarian assistance/exports.

(b) and (c) The total quantity and value of wheat exported during the last three years is as under:—

[5 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

Year	Quantity (lakh MT)	Value (Rs. crores)
2001-02	26.49	1330
2002-03	36.71	1760
2003-04 (Apr.-Nov, 2003)	25.06	1405

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Expansion of G-20

8. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government are planning to expand G-20 and building linkages with other developing countries of the world; and

(b) the steps Government are planning to adopt India specific approach in the coming WTO talks, especially on agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Periodic meetings of the G-20 alliance on agriculture are held at official and Ministerial levels to formulate the strategy of the G-20 in the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), including on outreach to other Members and to building convergence of views with other alliances in agriculture. As a result of these activities, certain Members of the WTO such as Indonesia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, have formally joined the G-20 since the Cancun Ministerial Conference was held in September 2003. On a number of aspects, alliances such as the Africa Group and the G-33 developing countries (of which also India is a Member) which strongly advocate the institution of special measures to safeguard food security and rural development needs in developing countries, have indicated a common approach and position in the agriculture negotiations with those of the G-20. The activities of the G-20 are coordinated by Brazil.

India has been making all efforts to ensure that trade-distorting domestic subsidies maintained largely by developed countries are substantially reduced and their export subsidies eliminated, and that the market access commitments by developing countries like India serve to safeguard their food and livelihood security concerns and rural development needs.