

PPC has been updated with the available Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) fixed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

The Indian tea industry is encouraged to take steps to reduce its reliance on synthetic plant protection formulations so that Indian tea continues to meet high standards of quality as expected by the domestic consumers and international exporters. Tea Board of India has also launched 'Trustea'- as a voluntary certification programme for the Indian tea industry to indicate that no pesticides banned by the Central and State Government have been used in production of tea. Majority of the tea factories in India follow prescribed guidelines for Good Agriculture Practices (GAP)/Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)/Good Hygiene Practices (GHP) Standards. Tea Board also facilitates for modernization of tea factories and quality upgradation of Indian tea through schemes of Plantation Development Scheme (PDS)/Quality Upgradation and Product Diversification Scheme (QUPDS).

Decline in manufacturing sector

†1122. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a steep decline in the manufacturing sector in the month of September this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how this compares with the last two years; and

(c) the reasons for an increase registered in August but there was a decline in the month of September?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN) : (a) and (b) As per the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), the growth rate of manufacturing sector in the month of September, 2015 slowed down to 2.6 % from the growth rate of 6.6 % in August, 2015. The growth rate of manufacturing in September, 2014 and September, 2013 was 2.7 % and 1.4 % respectively.

(c) The lower growth rate of manufacturing sector in the month of September, 2015 was due to the decline in production of items such as publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media; medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks; Wearing apparel, dressing and dyeing of fur; Radio, TV and communication equipment and apparatus; food products and beverages, etc.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.