

The small growers are paid for their produce as per Price Sharing Formula (PSF) which differs from region to region and ranges from 44% to 69% based on outturn. Further, value addition is done to the teas subsequently in the form of blending, packaging, labeling etc. by the packeters (which includes MNCs) and also by some estate and bought leaf factories which is then packed into their own retail brands based on their market requirement. The price fetched after value addition for packet teas is higher than the primary auction/private sale price.

(c) For ensuring better remunerative prices of green leaf to tea growers, District Green Leaf Price Monitoring Committees have been set up in every tea growing district under the Chairmanship of District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners. The Committee constitutes representatives from small tea growers, Estate factories, Bought Leaf Factories and Tea Board. The Committee monitors and oversees the compliance of payment of average green leaf price payable to the small tea growers for each succeeding month based on the last month average auction price of Bought Leaf Factories of such districts by applying the Price Sharing Formula.

Guidelines for Free Trade and Warehousing Zones

2298. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether exclusive rules and guidelines are being made for Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZ) for actual users of FTWZ services *i.e.* client/customers of FTWZ unit service provider, Indian/Foreign suppliers and buyers to make FTWZ concept a success and hasslefree; and

(b) whether Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) issuance and sanctioning of duty drawback can be extended to competent authority in FTWZ in order to promote exports through FTWZ units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Sir, a Committee headed by Development Commissioner, Noida Special Economic Zone was constituted by the Government for review of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Rules, 2006. The Committee has suggested incorporation of a separate chapter for Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZs) in SEZs Rules, 2006. The proposed changes in SEZs Rules, 2006 with regards FTWZs are examined in consultation with Department of Revenue.

(b) No sir, at present Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and duty drawback are not available to Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZs) units.