

**Shifting the headquarter of Tea Board**

1350. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has decided to shift the headquarters of the Tea Board from Kolkata; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government for shifting the headquarters of the Tea Board from Kolkata.

**Reasons for not signing 'RCEP'**

1351. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not signing RCEP; and

(b) whether Government has any action plan to combat the collective bargaining power of RCEP countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not fully reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join the consensus. While RCEP was intended to provide mutually beneficial and balanced outcomes for RCEP countries including India, the current structure did not adequately address ambition and concerns of India's stakeholders.

**Price stabilization mechanism for natural rubber**

1352. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any price stabilization mechanism and replating subsidy for natural rubber is under consideration to be included in the Rubber Policy;