

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal to ban the import of Palm Oil and electronic items from Malaysia. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade has issued a Notification No. 39/2015-2020 dated 8th January 2020, amending the import policy of Refined Palm Oil (HS 15119010), Refined Palmolein (HS 15119020) and Other (HS 15119090), from 'Free' to 'Restricted'. This Notification is applicable on imports from all countries. There is no restriction on import of Crude Palm Oil at present.

Responsibilities and functions of Tea Board

2293. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the responsibilities and functions of Tea Board;
- (b) how much funds have been given to the Tea Board from 2015-19;
- (c) the TOTAL welfare schemes of Tea Board for the Tea garden workers; and
- (d) the detail of the beneficiaries from 2015-19?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) As per the mandate under the Tea Act, 1953, the Tea Board carries out functions and responsibilities which, *inter alia*, includes various regulatory functions, rendering financial and technical assistance for cultivation, manufacture and marketing of tea, export promotion, aiding research and development activities for augmentation of tea production and improvement of tea quality.

(b) During the years 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Upto Feb.2020) an amount of ₹831.285 crore has been released to the Tea Board.

(c) and (d) The Tea Board extends certain welfare measures for the tea garden workers and their wards/dependants which are supplemental in nature. The welfare measures are undertaken within the ambit of Human Resource Development (HRD) Component under the Tea Development and Promotion Scheme. During 2015-16 to 2019-20 (Upto Feb.2020), an amount of ₹19.65 cr. has been disbursed to 32,038 beneficiaries under the HRD Component.