

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 205
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th AUGUST, 2021

SCHEMES FOR WELFARE OF TEA GARDEN LABOURERS

*205. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by the Ministry for the welfare of tea garden labourers in Assam;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated for the above-mentioned schemes for the current year;
- (c) whether any new or special schemes have been introduced/implemented or proposed to be implemented for tea garden labourers by the Ministry in the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 205 FOR ANSWER ON 06th AUGUST, 2021 REGARDING
“SCHEMES FOR WELFARE OF TEA GARDEN LABOURERS”.**

(a) to (d): The working conditions of tea garden workers in the country are governed by the Plantation Labour Act (PLA), 1951. The Act requires the employers to provide the workers with housing, medical facilities, sickness and maternity benefits and other forms of social security measures. There are provisions for educational facilities for children, drinking water, conservancy, canteens, crèches and recreational facilities for the benefit of tea plantation workers and their families in and around the work places in the tea estates. The welfare provisions of the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 have now been subsumed in two labour codes- the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and Social Security Code, 2020.

Tea Board has also implemented certain welfare activities under Human Resource Development (HRD) component of the “Tea Development and Promotion Scheme”, aimed at improving the health and hygiene of workers, education of wards of workers and imparting training to improve skills for growers/workers. During the period 2017-18 to 2020-21, assistance of Rs.303.09 lakhs has been provided to workers of Tea Gardens in the State of Assam.

In order to give impetus to the welfare of tea workers, a scheme with financial outlay of Rs. 1000 Crores has been announced in the Union Budget 2021 for tea workers.
