

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 430**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2019

**MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE TO TEA GROWERS**

\*430. DR. MOHAMMAD JAVED:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the tea growers of Bihar, particularly in Kishanganj district and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated for Purnea and Kishanganj districts of Bihar in particular; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to revive Government tea factory in Bihar to support small tea growers and stop their exploitation by private tea factories?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 430 DUE FOR REPLY ON 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2019.**

(a): No Sir, there is no Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Tea. MSP is fixed for 22 mandated agricultural crops which are not perishable and are amenable to storage. On the other hand, tea leaves are highly perishable plantation crops and quality deteriorates with storage. In order to ensure fair price realization to the tea growers especially the small growers, Tea Board in the year 2004 introduced Price Sharing Formula (PSF) which envisaged fair sharing of sale proceeds between the grower and the manufacturer in a certain ratio based on the cost of production of green leaf and made tea. Further, in order to ensure proper implementation of PSF, Tea Board also notifies Minimum Benchmark Price (MBP) for each tea growing districts including Kishanganj at the beginning of the every month.

(b): The Tea Board under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme is extending financial assistance to the tea industry in the country, including the Purnea and Kishanganj Districts of Bihar, for uprooting and replanting, rejuvenation, pruning, irrigation, assistance to Self Help Groups (SHGs), field mechanization, assistance to Farmers' Producers Organizations (FPOs), annual award for SHGs & FPOs, setting up of new factories by FPOs, setting up mini factories, workshop/training, development & promotion of organic farming/organic conversion, etc.

(c): The Tea Board has reported that there is one tea factory namely 'DRDA Tea Factory' in the Kishanganj District owned by the State Government of Bihar. The said Government Factory was established in the year 2004 under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana at Kalidas Kismat, Pothia Block, Kishanganj and is functioning. At present the factory is being operated by M/s Sancheti Tea Co, a Proprietorship firm after obtaining it for lease for 10 years w.e.f the year 2015 from DRDA, Kishanganj, Government of Bihar.

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