

[English]

Kangra Tea

494. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kangra tea is famous for its natural flavour and colour; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to popularise Kangra tea and boost its production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Kangra tea has its distinctive flavour and has more cup characters (colour) than other flavour teas in the country.

(b) Tea Board have taken a number of steps to improve the productivity and to popularise Kangra tea which includes supply of improved planting material at subsidised cost, free advisory service, motivation of small and marginal farmers, improvement of manufacturing capacity through cooperative sector, rejuvenation and consolidation of existing area, intensification of research and development etc. Recently a tea festival-cum-scientific seminar was organised for giving a fillip to Kangra tea.

Listing of Shares of SAIL

495. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi stock Exchange listed the shares of Steel Authority of India (SAIL) in May, 1992;

(b) whether it had been done in accordance with the norms fixed in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The Delhi Stock Exchange granted permission for listing of shares of Steel Authority of India Limited in March, 1992 on the basis of an application submitted by the company and taking into account the guidelines for listing of shares of public Sector Enterprises issued by the Ministry in February, 1992.

(d) SEBI has issued on 9th April, 1992 guidelines to all Stock Exchanges advising them that the shares of public sector undertakings which have been divested by the Government should be listed by the Stock Exchanges and traded only after disclosure documents are submitted by the undertakings and approved by the SEBI as well as by the Stock Exchanges.

Acquisition of Land in Andhra Pradesh for Research Centre and Field Firing Range

496. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether revenue lands of some villages in Andhra Pradesh have been acquired for research centre project and for Field Firing Range;

(b) if so, the extent of lands acquired for these projects, village-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide compensation or employment to the affected persons; and

(d) the amount of compensation paid so