

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4166
ANSWERED ON 19/08/2025

DARJEELING TEA GARDENS

4166. MR PATHAN YUSUF

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering a special package exclusively for Darjeeling tea gardens to support uprooting, replanting and rejuvenation pruning, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most tea gardens in Darjeeling Hills have been unable to access the uprooting and replanting scheme introduced in 2014 and the condition be reviewed to make it more inclusive, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government reinstate the subsidy scheme of rejuvenation pruning that was discontinued in 2019, considering its importance for the sustainability of Darjeeling tea gardens, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Tea Board will ensure proper monitoring and simplified implementation of any revived or new schemes so that small and medium sized gardens can benefit, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c): Government of India, through Tea Board, is currently implementing the scheme 'Tea Development and Promotion Scheme', under which assistance is being provided for uprooting & re-plantation of old and senile tea bushes, throughout the country, including in Darjeeling. Under the replantation component of this scheme, preference is given to tea gardens located in Darjeeling Hills which fulfill all other criteria. In addition, the minimum area condition for replantation of 4 hectare has been relaxed for Darjeeling hills to 1 hectare. Rejuvenation pruning is currently not a part of the above scheme.

(d): Tea Board has formed a Scheme Co-ordination and Monitoring Committee (SC&MC) & Steering Committee for monitoring the implementation and progress of the scheme. Further, nodal officers have been appointed by Tea Board for various components/sub-components of the scheme. The SC&MC meets on monthly basis to oversee the implementation of the scheme and to review the physical and financial progress. Further, the services for implementation of the various sub-components of the scheme are provided through online mode at "ServicePlus" portal.