

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3498

ANSWERED ON:20.08.2004

PROPOSAL FROM INDUSTRIAL HOUSES FOR ESTABLISHING NEW TEA GARDENS

Narbula Shri Dawa

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that some industrial houses have submitted proposals for plantation of new tea gardens in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof particularly Darjeeling district in West Bengal; and
- (c) whether the Government intend to provide some incentives to the industrial houses in view of backwardness of Darjeeling and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a)&(b) : As per available information, no proposals have been submitted by industrial houses for plantation of new tea gardens in the country, particularly in the Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

(c): Tea Board grants subsidy under Plantation Development Scheme to undertake replanting/replacement planting activities. Subsidy is also provided under Quality Upgradation and Product Diversification Scheme of Tea Board. The benefits under these schemes are available to the Darjeeling area also which is a traditional tea growing area.