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**Title: Need to revive tea plantation industry in the Banspal Block in Keonjhar District, Orissa.**

**SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR):** Sir, a serious situation has arisen in the Banspal area of Orissa due to the closure of the tea garden there. A tea garden started at an investment of Rs. 3 crore at Taramakant area in that block was finally closed down after it fell sick for a few months. The tea garden was started in that area as per the Government's proposal to encourage tea plantation in the non-traditional area. As many as 500 tribal workers who were earning their daily bread in that tea garden have been thrown out of employment. This has happened at a time when the Tea Board is promoting tea plantation under its New Area Development Scheme and Small Growers Development Scheme.

But, Sir, in the interest of the tea industry and the workers depending on tea garden, it is necessary to take over the tea garden by the Government keeping in view the climatic condition and scope for increasing areas under tea plantation.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to direct the Tea Board to undertake tea plantation in the Banspal Block in Keonjhar district extensively without any further delay, with a view to generate employment in that area.

**SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to associate myself with Shri Ananta Nayak. It is because there are similar problems in my constituency also.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** All right.