GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2396 ANSWERED ON 16.03.2021

PROMOTION OF TEA TOURISM IN THE COUNTRY

2396. SMT. SHANTA CHHETRI:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to attract tourism in tea garden; and
- (b) whether Government is aware that tea tourism can be an effective source of additional earning for the tea estates as well as generate revenue for Government, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (b): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for various tourism projects prioritized in consultation with them every year subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

There is potential for development of Tea Tourism in the tea growing areas of the country which includes the States of Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Aurnachal Pradesh, Manipur, Sikkim, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Bihar. As part of Tea Tourism, tea in itself can be showcased to tourists through the intricacies of manufacture, types of tea, operations in the plantations etc for which infrastructure like boarding and lodging, home stays boutiques etc can be set up in the uncultivated area within the grant area of tea estates, small growers gardens and places of major tourist footfalls like tourist destination, airports, etc.

The State Governments are accordingly taking various initiatives for promotion of tourism in tea gardens.

Considering the potential of the Tea Tourism in tea gardens of North Eastern States, NITI Aayog is also working with the North Eastern States for promotion of tea tourism.
