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Synopsis

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By [Bikash Singh](#), ET Bureau Aug 09, 2021, 09:44 PM IST

Workers body, **Assam Chah Mazdoor Sangha (ACMS)** has sought setting up of **tea** ministry in Assam.

ACMS president and former DoNER minister **Paban Singh Ghatowar** while participating in the 63rd foundation day of the ACMS in Dibrugarh on Monday said that setting up of tea ministry was a long pending demand of people of the state.

He said, "Tea is major contributor in state economy and sector is largest employment provider in the state".

Assam has over 850 tea estates besides there are lakhs of small tea growers. In the organised sector over 10 lakh people are engaged.

Assam's total production in 2021, from Jan to June, is less by about 41 million kgs, which is about 19% less compared to same period in 2019. Production of 2020 was an aberration due to Covid-19 induced lockdown. In 2019, from Jan to June, tea production was 220.11 million kgs whereas this year it is 179.32 million kgs.