टी बोर्ड ★ भारत
TEA BOARD ★ INDIA

69 वीं वार्षिक रिपोर्ट

69th Annual Report 2022-23

© Copyright Tea Board India, 2025

14 बी टी एम सरणी कोलकाता 700 001
14 B.T.M. SARANI KOLKATA 700 001
www.teaboard.gov.in

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

TEA BOARD INDIA

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 2022-23

14, B.T.M. Sarani

Kolkata-700 001

INDEX

69TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD: 2022 – 2023

Chapter No.	Subject	Page Number
Chapter-1	Organizational Set-up and Functions	1-12
Chapter-2	India Tea in the International Perspective	13-16
Chapter-3	Finance	17-21
Chapter-4	Tea Development	22-61
Chapter-5	Tea Research	62-82
Chapter-6	Tea Promotion	83-113
Chapter-7	Licensing	114-118
Chapter-8	Statistics	119-122
Chapter-9	Human Resource Development	123-128
Chapter-10	Hindi Cell	129-130
Chapter-11	Vigilance Cell & RTI	131-132
Chapter-12	Legal Cell	133

CHAPTER- 1

ESTABLISHMENT

Organizational set-up and functions for the year 2022-2023

Constitution of the Board

Tea Board India was established on 1st April 1954 as per the provisions of Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953. The Board is assigned with the overall development of the tea industry in India and functioning under the administrative control of the Central Government under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Organization of the Board:

The Board comprises of a Chairman and 31 members appointed by Government of India representing different sections of the Tea Industry. The Board is reconstituted in every three years. The existing Board was reconstituted vide Gazette notifications dated 16th August 2022 and 26th December, 2022 for a period of three years.

Functions of Tea Board:

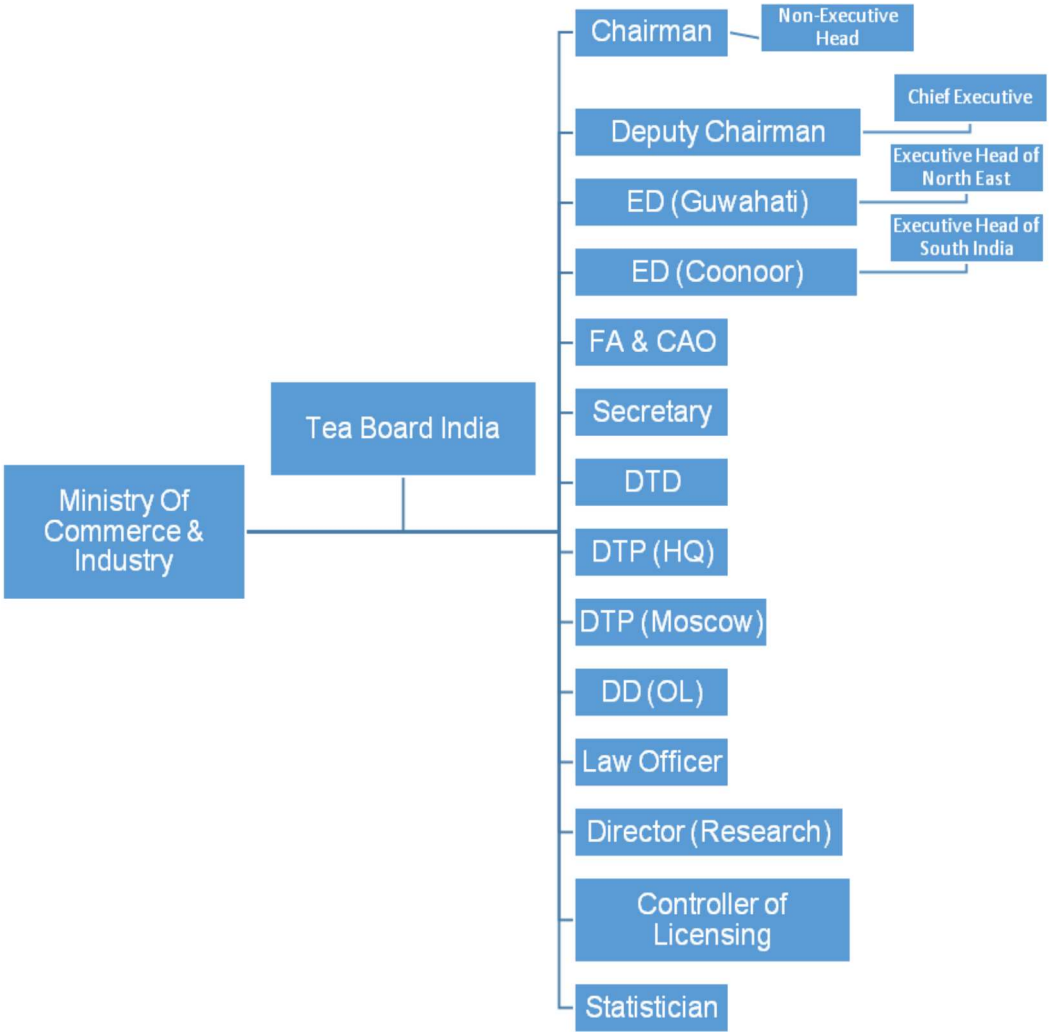
The functions of the Tea Board span across a wide spectrum as defined under Section 10 of the Tea Act, which briefly include:

1. Increasing production and productivity of tea plantations;
2. Improving quality of tea;
3. Promoting co-operative efforts among small tea growers;
4. Supporting Tea Research and Development;
5. Undertaking promotion campaigns for increasing exports and domestic consumption;
6. Regulatory functions - Registration of tea gardens, factories, primary buyers and issue of licenses for tea brokers, auction organizers, exporters and tea waste dealers;
7. Welfare measures for plantations workers/their wards in the area of health, hygiene, training and education;
8. Collection and dissemination of tea statistics; and
9. Such other activities as are assigned from time to time by the Central Government.

Administrative Set-up:

As per Rule 3 of the Tea Rules, 1954, the Head Office of the Board is located in Kolkata, West Bengal. The Chairman is the Non-Executive head and the Deputy Chairman is the Chief Executive Officer. Two Executive Directors are stationed at Guwahati (Assam) and Coonoor (Tamil Nadu). As of now, the Board has thirty six (36) offices including Head office/ Zonal/Regional/Sub-Regional Offices within India and one (1) abroad i.e. Moscow

ADMINISTRATIVE SETUP OF TEA BOARD



The role of the Establishment Department is to act as the formulator of policy and ensuring compliance to the provisions of Tea Rules and By-Laws as well as rules, orders, circulars, memorandums issued by the Department of Commerce and Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India. The Department is headed by the Secretary and assisted by the Assistant Secretary. It deals with all the matters related to Board's staff & officials, service matters, establishment of offices, manpower positions etc. The Secretariat Section and the Stores maintains all the matters related to the Secretariat viz., deals will all VIP references, conducting Board meetings etc., while the Store Section keeps the records of inventories of the Board.

Board Meeting from 2022 to 2023(up to March, 2023)

For the period (April 2022 to March 2023) under report 01 (One) Board meeting was held and the details are under:

Board meeting number	Venue	Date
248th	**Kolkata**	**28th February, 2023**

Man-Power of Tea Board

The total man-power of the Tea Board as on 31.03.2023 was 352 (including eight officers of Tea Board on deputation to other departments). The break-up of existing strength of the officers and staff members under different categories in Board's different offices in India is shown in the Table-1.

TABLE -1

Group-wise Man power of the Board in India as on 31.03.2023

Regions	Group A	Group B	Group C	Total
Head Office	14	22	77	113
Zonal/Regional/Sub Regional Offices	34	75	118	227
Officers on deputation to Tea Board	4*	-	-	4
Tea Board Officers/Officials on deputation to other organization	4	3	1	8
TOTAL	**56**	**100**	**196**	**352**

* 04 Number of officers are on deputation in Tea Board viz. Dy. Chairman, FA&CAO & ED, Guwahati and ED, Coonoor.

Details of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Class as on 31.03.2023

	SC	ST	OBC	Total
Group A	8	4	17	29
Group B	15	4	29	48
Group C	35	13	20	68
TOTAL	**58**	**21**	**66**	**145**

Age wise profile of the Board's Employee (Excluding officers on deputation) as on 31.03.2023

Age Groups	Group A	Group B	Group C	Total
18-30	0	0	01	01
31-40	18	39	41	98
41-50	13	38	52	103
51-60	21	23	102	146
TOTAL	**52**	**100**	**196**	**348**

* 04 Number of officers are on deputation in Tea Board viz. Dy. Chairman, FA&CAO & ED, Guwahati and ED, Coonoor.

Retirement chart of Tea Board for next five Financial Years

Year	Group A	Group B	Group C	Total
2023-2024	2	7	10	19
2024-2025	3	4	15	22
2025-2026	0	3	13	16
2026-2027	2	2	11	15
2027-2028	5	5	9	19
TOTAL	**12**	**21**	**58**	**91**

Changes in Man power of the Tea Board during the year under review:

Promotions:

- As a part of the austerity measures as well as reducing of administrative expenditure, the Plantation Division, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India vide letter No. 5/1004/2015-Plant (Coord) dated 22.02.2017 has advised Tea Board not to undertake any fresh recruitment and promotion without prior approval of the Department.

Additional responsibilities:

- Dr. Rishikesh Rai, Dy. Director (Hindi) took additional responsibility of Secretary (I/C), Tea Board w.e.f. 22.12.2018 and continued to hold the said charge during 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022& 2022-2023.
- Shri A.J.Rao, Assistant Statistical Officer took additional responsibility of Statistician (I/C), Tea Board from 14.08.2019.
- Smt. Rajanigandha Seal Naskar, Controller of Licensing has been nominated to the post of Vigilance Officer w.e.f. 19.07.2021.
- Ms. Arunita Phukan Yadav IRS (C&CE:2011) Executive Director, Guwahati, took the additional charge of Director Tea Promotion (In-Charge), Tea Board, Kolkata w.e.f. 11.02.2022and also took the additional charge of Executive Director (I/C), Tea Board, Coonoor from 12.10.2022 to 07.11.2022.
- Dr. K.N.Raghavan, IRS (C&CE:90), Executive Director, Rubber Board, Kottayam, took the additional charge of Chairman, Tea Board for a period of six months w.e.f. the forenoon of 04.03.2022 to 02.05.2022.
- Shri Saurav Pahari, IAS (WB: 2008), took additional responsibility of Chairman, Tea Board for a period of six months w.e.f. the forenoon of 02.05.2022 to 01.11.2022.
- Dr. Mahipal Singh, Project Director took the additional charge of Director (Research) from 07.09.2022.
- Smt. Rajanigandha Seal Naskar, Controller of Licensing has been nominated as Public Information Officer (PIO) as well as Nodal Officer for dealing all the matters relating to Public Grievances & RTI of Tea Board in respect of Board's Head Office, Kolkata in addition to her own duties w.e.f. 05.01.2023
- Shri Asish Deb, Assistant Statistical Officer, took the additional responsibility of Assistant Secretary (I/C) and Estate Officer (I/C), Tea Board w.e.f. 06.01.2023
- Shri Subrata Banerjee, System Analyst has been nominated as Nodal Officer for uploading the details of properties of Tea Board on the Government Land Information System (GLIS) Portal on regular basis w.e.f. 21.02.2023.
- The Liaison Officers for the categories of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Communities, Persons with Disability and Ex-Servicemen have been reconstituted w.e.f. 09.03.2023.
- The Committee to redress complaint of sexual harassment of any woman working in the Tea Board has been reconstituted w.e.f. 09.03.2023

Resignation and relinc

- Dr. K.N. Raghavan, IRS (C&CE:00), [illegible]

Annexure-I

Addresses of Tea Board Offices in India and Abroad

West Bengal & Bihar

Tea Board India 14, BTM Sarani, Kolkata - 700 001. Tel. :033-22351331/Fax: 033-2221-5715 E-mail : secytboard@gmail.com Website : www.teaboard.gov.in	Tea Board India, Regional Office, Birpara, 1st Floor, Usha Complex, (Beside United Bank of India), M. G. Road, P.O. Birpara, Dist. Alipurduar, West Bengal. Pin: 735204 Mob: - 8609952917. Email: teaboardbirpara@gmail.com
Darjeeling Tea Research and Development Centre (DTR & DC) Acharya Bhanu Path, Kurseong – 734 203, Darjeeling Telefax: 0354-2330218 Tel: 0354-2330287 Email: dtrdcteaboard@gmail.com	Tea Board India, Regional Office, Islampur, Power House Para, Opposite to Main Bus Terminus, PO: Islampur, Dist. Uttar Dinajpur, W.B. 733202 Email: teaboardislampur@gmail.com
Tea Board India, Regional Office, Rahut Bari, Babupara, Ward No. 7, P.O. & Dist. : Jalpaiguri-735 101, West Bengal. Telephone: 03561-225146 Email: teaboardjalpaiguri@gmail.com	Tea Board India, Regional Office, "Quality Control Laboratory Building(3rd Floor)",Tea Park, Bhola More, (Behind New Jalpaiguri Railway Station),P.O.Sahudangi Hat, Siliguri – 735 135, West Bengal. Email id: siliguriteaboard@gmail.com
Tea Board India, Sub Regional Office, The Premises of Suresh Prasad Singh, Nagar Panchayat Thakurganj, Farabari, Ward No.-2, P.O.+P.S.-Thakurganj, Dist – Kishanganj, State-Bihar, Pin – 855116 Email: teaboardsrothakurganj@gmail.com	Tea Board India, Research Directorate and Quality Control Laboratory Tea Park, Bhola More, (Behind New Jalpaiguri Railway Station),P.O.Sahudangi Hat, Siliguri – 735 135, West Bengal. Email Id: resdirteaboardqcl@gmail.com, qcl.tbi@gmail.com
Tea Board India, Sub-Regional Office, Kurseong, Darjeeling Tea Research and Development Centre Campus, Acharya Bhanu Path, PO: Kurseong, PIN: 734 203, Dist.: Darjeeling, West Bengal. Email: phuriagri@gmail.com	

Tamil Nadu

The Executive Director Tea Board, Zonal Office, "SHELWOOD", Library Road, Post Box No. 6, Coonoor – 643 101, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu Tel: 0423-2231638/2230316*[D] Fax: 0423-2232332, 2231484-Res E-mail: teaboardcoonoor@rediffmail.com	Tea Board, Regional Office, In front of Co-operative Bank, Mysore Road, Gudalur-643 212, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu Tel: 04262-262316 Email: teaboardgudalur@gmail.com
Tea Board, 139, Eldams Road, Teynampet (2nd floor),Chennai – 600 002, Tamil Nadu.	Tea Room, Tea Board Chennai Secretariat, Shop No. 3, 4th St. George, Chennai-600 009, TEL: 044-24342754/Fax: 044-24341650, E-mail:teaboardchennai@sancharnet.in
Tea Board India Tea Center Tiruchendur Murugan Temple Kovil Road Near North Gate, Tiruchendur - 628215.	In-Charge Tea Board India Tea Center Opp: Winch Station West Giri Street, Palani- 624601

Kerala

Tea Board, Regional Office, Indira Gandhi Road, Willingdon Island, Cochin – 682 003, KeralaTel: 0484-2666523/2340481 Fax: 0484-2666648 E-mail: teaboardkochi@sancharnet.in	Tea Board, Regional Office, 511/1, Kallolickal Building, Peermade Post, Idukki District, Kerala-685 509 Tel: 04869-222628 Email: teaboard.kumily@gmail.com

Andhra Pradesh

Tea Nook, Near C.R.O.(G) Office, (opposite to Railway Reservation Counter), Tirumala– 517 504, Andhra Pradesh

Assam, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Meghalaya

The Executive Director Tea Board,North Eastern Zonal Office, Housefed Complex, 5th& 6th floor, Central Block, Beltola-Basistha Road, Dispur, Guwahati – 781006. Ph: 0361-2228944/2228945 Email:teaboardguwahati@hotmail.com teaboard.guwahati@gov.in	Tea Board, Regional Office, ITI Road, PO:Indranagar, via-Kunjaban, Agartala, Tripura-799006 Tel: 0381-2354639/Fax: 0381-2354182 Email:teaboard.agartala@gmail.com
Tea Board, Regional Office, Zig-Zag Road, Chowkidinghee, Opp. to JSB Shantiniketan Apartment, P.O. : Dibrugarh-786 001 Tel: 0373-3590130 E-mail: teaboard.stgdd@gmail.com teaboarddibrugarh@gmail.com	Tea Board, Regional Office, Club Road, Silchar – 788 001, Dist: Cachar, Assam. Tel: 03842-232518 E-mail: teaboardsilchar@gmail.com

Tea Board, Regional Office, Private Residence, 2nd Floor, Near Kingcup School, V.I.P Road, P.O: Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh-791 111 E.mail: teaboarditanagar@gmail.com	Tea Board, Regional Office, Tea Research Association Complex, Cinnamara, Jorhat – 785 008, Assam E-mail: teaboardjorhat@gmail.com
Tea Board, Regional Office, Opposite Election Office, Dist. : Sonitpur, Ganesh Ghat, Tezpur-784 001, Assam. Tel: 03712-233664 E-mail: tezpurteaboard@gmail.com	Tea Board, Sub-Regional Office, L.K. Baruah Road, Amolapatty, Dist: Sivsagar, Assam, PIN: 785640 E-mail: teaboard.sivsagar@gmail.com
Tea Board, Regional Office, "Punyalaya", Marwari Patty, Ward No-1, P.O. &Dist: Golaghat (Assam), PIN: 785621, Assam E-mail: teaboardgolaghat@gmail.com	Tea Board, Regional Office, Khargeswar Road, Near BSNL exchange, Dist: Tinsukia, Assam, PIN: 786 125 Tel: 0374 2950019 E-mail: tinsukiateaboard2019@gmail.com
Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, C/O Mrinal Moni Bhattacharyya, Opposite Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, P.O. &Dist: Biswanath Chariali Assam, E-mail: gogoi.biswajit@yahoo.in gogoibiswajit74@gmail.com	Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, Udalguri, ward no.4. near HS school P.O. &Dist: Udalguri, PIN: 784509, Assam E-mail: jibantamang14@yahoo.com
Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, Lumnongrim, Umsning, Dist: Ri-bhoi, Meghalaya, PIN: 793105 E-mail: teaboardumsning@gmail.com	Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, Nakari Sundar Nagar Ward no. 2 P.O.-Lakhimpur Dist: Lakhimpur, Assam-787001 E-mail:mohanjadab@gmail.com
Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, C/O Shri Hemkanta Khanikar, 14 No Line Road, Opposite Allahabad Bank, Rajgarh, Dibrugarh, Assam, PIN: 786611 E-mail:neel.cent11@gmail.com	Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, Zemabawk, Aizwal, Mizoram PIN: 796017 Email:teaboard.aizawlmz@gmail.com
Tea Board, Sub Regional Office, P.O. : Dharmanagar, Dist: North Tripura, Tripura, PIN: 799250 E-mail: teaboard.dharmanagar@gmail.com	Tea Board, Sub Regional office, Rajadhap, Near Veterinary Hospital, P.O.: Sonari, Dist: Charaideo, PIN: 785690, Assam E-mail: teaboard.sonari@gmail.com

Spe
Tea Bo
13/2 Jam
New Delhi –
Telefax: 011-2
Mob: 0981800
E-mail:smnasrullah.
daktboard@gmail.com

Tea Board Sub Regional O
Link Road, Thapalia,
Almora, Dist: Almora,
Uttarakhand, PIN: 263601
E-mail: teaboardalmora@gmail.com

Annexure-II

List of Board Members.			
Sl. No.	**Name of the Board Members for the year 16th August, 2022 to 15th August, 2025**		
1.	Principal Secretary, Department of Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprise, Government of Assam.	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
2.	Shri Prasanta Kumar Barai, WBCS (Exe), Additional Secretary, Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Government of West Bengal.	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
3.	Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura, Agartala.	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
4.	Chief Executive Officer, INDCOSERVE, Government of Tamilnadu.	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
5.	Secretary/Principal Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
6	Vacant (One person representing the Govt. of Kerala)	Member	Representing the Government of the principal tea growing States appointed under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
7.	Shri Horen Singh Bey, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha.	Member	Representing Parliament the under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
8.	Shri Raju Bista, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha.	Member	Representing Parliament the under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
9.	Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.	Member	Representing Parliament the under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
10.	Sh. T.K. Thulaseedharan Pillai, Qnattu House, Idukki Kanjikuzhy, P.O. Kanjikuzhy-Idukki, Kerala- 685606	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule-4.
11.	Sh. E.P. Sivadasan, Aravindam, Mattilayam, Vellamunda, Wayanad, Kerala-670731.	Member	Representing persons employed in Tea Estates and Gardens under clause (d) of sub-rule (1) of rule-4.

12.	Sh. Rajesh Chander, 21/29, Danny Cottage, Kotagiri, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu- 643217	Member	Representing dealers including both exporters and internal traders of tea under clause (e) of sub-rule (1) of rule-4.
13	Deputy Chairman, Tea Board, Kolkata	Ex-Officio Member	Appointed under clause (aa) of sub-rule (1) of rule-4.
14	Shri Sushil K Berlia, Berlia Complex, 2nd Mile, Sevoke Road, Siliguri – 734001	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
15	Shri Ashok K Goyal, Sevoke Road, 2.5 Miles, Siliguri – 734001, W.B.	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
16	Shri Mrigendra Jalan, Jalan Industries Pvt. Ltd., Flat 2C and D, Paramount Apartments, 25 Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata – 700019	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
17	Shri Rajib K Gohain, Santipur, Ward No. 3, Golaghat Town, Golaghat – 785621, Assam	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
18	Shri Dineshbhai Karia, Shree Vallabh, 39, Shrimad Park, B/h Big Bite Restaurant, Race Course Ring Road, Rajkot – 360001	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
19	Shri Dhananjayan Krishnamoorthy, Nankem Hospital Premises, Bed Ford, Coonoor, Nilgiris, TN	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
20	Shri Anand Kumar Goyal, Kusum Apartment, 11, Gurusaday Road, Flat No. 31, Kolkata - 700019	Member	Representing owners of tea estates and gardens and growers of tea under clause (c) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
21	Shri Nabin CH Keot, Maijan Natun Gaon, P.O. Hilaidhari, Dist. Dibrugarh, Pin – 786002	Member	Representing persons employed in Tea Estates and Gardens under clause (d) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
22	Shri K K Manoj Kumar, D/No. 3/394, Kozhichal Munnanadi (Post) Ayyankolly, The Nilgiris, Tamilnadu - 643253	Member	Representing persons employed in Tea Estates and Gardens under clause (d) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
23	Shri D. Devid ITO, Nullathanni Estate, Munnar, Idukki District, Kerala - 685612	Member	Representing persons employed in Tea Estates and Gardens under clause (d) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
24	Vacant	Member	Representing persons employed in Tea Estates and Gardens under clause (d) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
25	Shri Milind Jagdishchandra Shah, Girnar Food & Beverages, 401, Center Point, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Marge, Opp. Bharatmata Cinema, Parel Mumbai – 400012.	Member	Representing dealers including both exporters and internal traders of tea under clause (e) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.

26	Shri Viren Shah, Chairman, Federation of All India Tea Traders Association (FAITTA) and Chairman and MD, Jivraj Tea Ltd.	Member	Representing persons manufacturer of tea under clause (f) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
27	Shri Purajit Bakshi Gupta, Assammore, Mohitnagar, Jalpaiguri - 735102	Member	Representing persons manufacturer of tea under clause (f) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
28	Shri Prafull Ranjan Verma, Rajendra Nagar Madhubani, Dist. Puraniya, Bihar - 854301	Member	Representing persons consumers of tea under clause (g) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
29	Shri Mahesh Chauhan, Vill: Baas Hariya, Dist. Gurugram, Haryana	Member	Representing persons consumers of tea under clause (g) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
30	Shri Vinay Sharma, Hotel The Bliss, Khildu, P.O. Bindraban, Palampur, Dist. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh - 176061	Member	Representing persons other interests under clause (h) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.
31	Shri Virendra Singh Chaudhary, C-178, Sector - 48, Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar, Noyda, Uttar Pradesh - 201301	Member	Representing persons other interests under clause (h) of sub-rule (1) of rule 4.

CHAPTER-2

Broad over view of the Global and Indian Tea Scenarios:

Global Tea Scenario

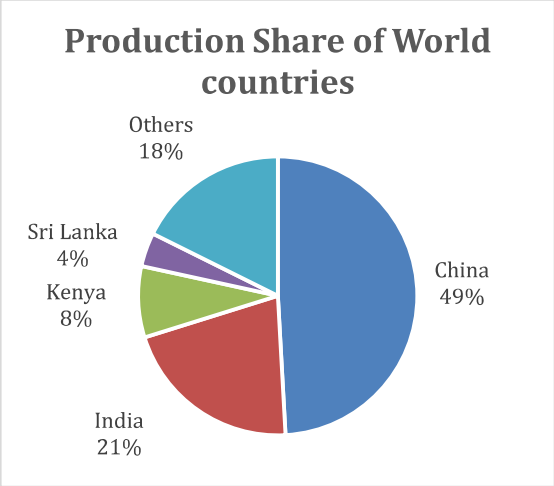
More than 36 countries spread over all the continents except North America having a varied range of agro-climatic conditions between Georgia and Argentina grow tea. The global tea production and consumption during 2022 was 6478 million kg and around 6209 million kg respectively. Total exports from the producing countries during 2022 added upto1831 million kg. Major tea producing and exporting countries are China, India, Kenya, and Sri Lanka and they account for 82% and 73% of world production and exports respectively. (Table-1)

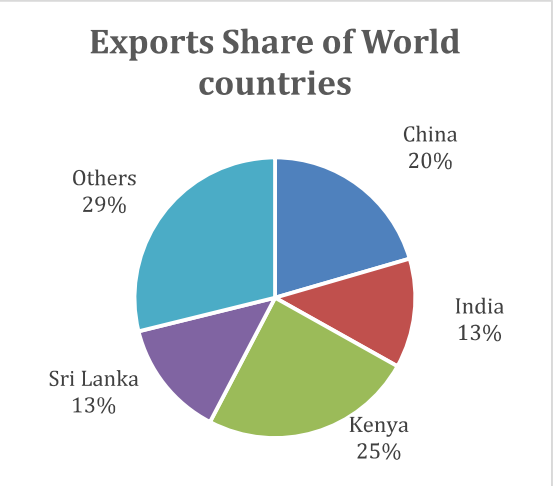
Table-1.

Production and Export share of major producing and exporting countries during 2022

Country	Production		Export	
	Million Kg	Global share	Million Kg	Global share
China	3181	49	375	20
India	1366	21	231	13
Kenya	535	8	450	25
Sri Lanka	252	4	247	13
Others	1144	18	528	29
World Total	**6478**	100	**1831**	100

Source:- ITC Annual Bulletin of Statistics 2023 except India



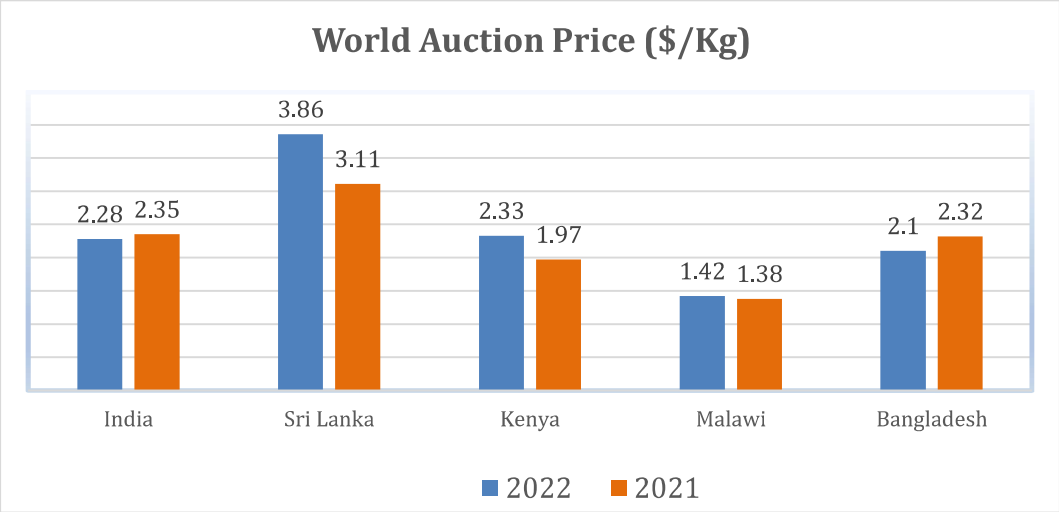


World auction prices during 2022 increased in all major producing countries except India and Bangladesh.

TABLE-2 : WORLD AUCTION PRICE OF TEA (IN US$/KG)

COUNTRY	2022	2021	>/< OVER 2021
India	2.28	2.35	-0.07
Sri Lanka	3.86	3.11	0.75
Kenya	2.33	1.97	0.36
Malawi	1.42	1.38	0.04
Bangladesh	2.10	2.32	-0.22

Source:- ITC Annual Bulletin of Statistics 2023 except India



The apparent global consumption during 2022 was 6209M.Kgs and India accounts for 19% of the global consumption due to its population even though the per capita tal production is consumed within the country. This distinct position is in sharp contrast with other producing countries, particularly Kenya and Sri Lanka which hardly have any strong domestic demand and hence they are able to export most of their production.

The Global Tea situation in 2022

Production:

Total global tea production during 2022 increased by 28.78M.Kgs as compared to the year 2021, except in Sri Lanka (Table-3). In India also, tea production during 2022 was increased by 23.30M.Kgs compared to 2021.

Table-3: Tea production in major tea producing countries (M.Kgs)

Country	2022	2021	>/< over 2021
India	1366.36	1343.06	23.30
Sri Lanka	251.50	299.34	-47.84
Kenya	535.04	537.83	-2.79
China	3181.04	3063.15	117.89
Others	1143.91	1205.69	-61.78
Total world Production	6477.85	6449.07	28.78

Source:- ITC Annual Bulletin of Statistics 2023 except India

Exports:

Total global tea exports in 2022decreased by 93.55 million Kgs over 2021 (Table-4). While tea exports of Kenya and Sri Lanka decreased, India&China improved the tea exports by 34.54 M.kg and 5.89 M.kg respectively.

Table-4: Exports of major producing countries (Million Kgs.)

Country	2022	2021	>/< over 2021
Kenya	450.33	558.93	-108.60
China	375.25	369.36	5.89
Sri Lanka	247.15	282.84	-35.69
India	231.08	196.54	34.54
Others	526.73	516.42	10.31
Total world Exports	**1830.54**	**1924.09**	-93.55

Source; ITC Annual Bulletin of Statistics 2023 (except India)

* Kenya's export include the neighboring African countries produce

Indian Tea Scenario

In India tea is cultivated in 15 states of which Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala are the major tea growing states. They account for 97% of the total production. Other traditional states where tea is grown are Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar and Karnataka. The non-traditional states that have entered the tea map of India include Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim.

World's finest teas like Darjeeling, Assam, Sikkim, Nilgiris and Kangra which are famous for their delicate flavor, strength and brightnessare produced inIndia. With diverse agro climatic conditions, India produces medley of teas suited to different tastes and

preferences of consumers. The characteristics of each region are distinct, which sets them apart from one another in many different ways.

Production:

India tea production during 2022-23 is 1374.97 M. Kgs increased by 30.57 M. Kgs over 2021-22

Exports:

Tea Exports during 2022-23 were 228.40 M. Kgs in quantity with value realization of Rs. 6385.81Crs. It was higher by 27.61 m kg in quantity and Rs.970.03Crsin value and the unit price realization was Rs. 279.59 per Kg, improved by Rs.9.87 per Kg.

.

Primary Marketing:

During the year under report about 43% of total tea produced in the country was sold through public auctions and the remaining through other modes.

Domestic Retention :

The apparent domestic retention of tea for the year 2022-23 was around 1176 M. Kgs. as against 1170 M. Kgs in 2021-22.

CHAPTER – 3

FINANCE

INTRODUCTION

Tea Board is funded through Grant-in-Aid by Govt. of India. Tea Board generates a meagre amount from Internal Extra Budgetary Resource (IEBR) through fees on licenses, interest on loan & advances and miscellaneous receipts such as sale of liquid tea, sale of green leaves, sale of application forms and other publications etc.

All funds available to the Tea Board are routed through the Annual Union Budget. Such funds are utilised by Tea Board as enshrined in Section 10 of the Tea Act subject to the delegation of financial powers of the Government.

CESS PROCEEDS

During the year 2022-23 an amount of Rs.8250.00 lakhs (excluding opening balance) was released by the Government towards proceeds of cess under section 26 of Tea Act, 1953 as establishment contribution to the Tea Board.There was an opening balance & closing balance of Rs. 1.65 lakh & Rs.15.05 lakh.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

During the year 2022-23, a sum of Rs.1229.00 lakh was received from Government towards Research and Development Grants. There was an opening balance of Rs. 04.02 lakh.

RESEARCH(ASIDE)

There was an opening balance & closing balance of Rs. 96.17 lakh & Rs.42.15 lakh and other receipts of Rs.2.18 lakh.

SUBSIDY

A sum of Rs.3109.57 lakh was received from Govt. towards subsidy during the year. There was an opening balance & closing balance of Rs.6.26 lakh & Rs.25.32 lakh and other receipts of Rs.447.77 lakh.

SPECIAL PURPOSE TEA FUND - CAPITAL

During the year, no amount was received from Govt. towards SPTF Capital Contribution.

ESTABLISHMENT RECEIPTS& PAYMENTS

A. Receipts

Receipts during the year 2022-23 under different heads are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Money received under Section 26 of Tea Act	8250.00
Fees realized on account of licenses/ TMCO 2003 including Application Fees	316.00
Miscellaneous Receipts including sale of liquid tea, sale of green leaves, sale of publications, interest on fixed deposit etc.	261.49
Interest on Advance	4.40
Registration fees realized on account of DCTM, Assam, Dooars&Nilgiri Trade Mark & Logo Administration	30.84
Other Receipts(including balance diff.)	136.02
TOTAL	**8998.75**

B. PAYMENTS

Establishment Payments during the year 2022-23 was as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Administration including Library	3138.98
Tea Promotion in India	283.58
Tea Promotion outside India	0.00
Pension including Gratuity& Leave Encashment	3144.37
Other Establishment Expenses	200.05
Employer's contribution to New Pension Scheme& Foreign Service Contribution	211.91
Other Administration Expenses	560.64
Fixed Assets Purchased	54.74
Other Payments	1404.48
TOTAL	**8998.75**

SCHEME ACTIVITIES RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

C.Receipts

Receipts during the year 2022-23 under different Schemes are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Tea Plantation Development Subsidy Scheme	1503.30
Schedule Caste Sub Plan	342.38
Sector Specific Scheme for Niti Forum	319.43
Human Resource Development Scheme	322.46
Market Promotion Scheme	210.00
National Programme for Tea Regulation	100.00
Research & Development Scheme	1229.00
Tribal Area Sub Plan	312.00
Other Receipts(including balance diff.)	490.17
Total	**4828.74**

D. Payments – Research & Development Grants.

(Rs. in Lakh)

Grant in aid to TRA /UPASI	1153.66
Financial Support other than TRA/UPASI	0.00
Upgradation of DTR & DC	57.20
Workshop / Seminar etc.	0.16
QCL Siliguri Expenses	70.90
Assets Purchase	1.32
Evaluation & Monitoring	0.00
Other payments	6.88
Total	**1290.12**

E. PAYMENTS (INCLUDING FD MADE) - SUBSIDY

(Rs. in Lakh)

Plantation Subsidy Scheme	1502.24
Quality Up-gradation & product Diversification Scheme	0.34
Human Resource Development Scheme	322.51
Orthodox Tea Production Subsidy Scheme	1.55
Market Promotion Scheme	199.73
Scheduled Caste Sub Plan	342.90
National Programme for Tea Regulation	544.66
Tribal Area Sub Plan	305.01
Sector Specific Scheme for Niti Forum	319.39
Total	**3538.32**

F. PAYMENTS–RESEARCH SCHEME (ASIDE)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Expenditure	0.30
Total	**0.30**

G.PAYMENTS – LOAN SCHEME & TEA CENTRE

(Rs. in lakh)

Revolving Corpus Fund For Loan Scheme	774.02
SPTF	2083.64
TEA CENTRE	105.52
Total	**2963.18**

TOTAL PAYMENTS ON SCHEME ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2022-23

= (D +E + F) = Rs. 4828.74 lakh

Swatchta Action Plan (SAP)

As per the directives of the Government of India, Tea Board took initiative for implementation of the Swatchta Action Plan in different offices of the Board and tea gardens. An amount of Rs.49.99 lakhs was spent towards sanitation related activities and workshops on Swatchta

Awareness programme in tea gardens and schools in the tea garden regions.

CHAPTER -4

TEA DEVELOPMENT

Introduction:

One of the important functions of the Tea Board under the Tea Act is formulation and implementation of development schemes aimed at increasing tea production and productivity of plantations, improvement in the quality of made tea, modernization of tea processing, packaging and value addition facilities, product mix and encouraging co-operative efforts amongst small tea growers and also welfare measures for tea garden workers that are supplementary to the provisions of the Plantation Labour Act.

Financial assistance for the above activities is extended through approved schemes

Development Committee:

The Development Committee comprises of the following members during the year under report:

1. Dy. Chairman, Tea Board, Ex-officio Chairman of the Committee
2. ShriAbhishek Chandra, IAS, Secretary, Government of Tripura
3. Ms. Monica Rana, IAS, CEO, INDCOSERVE, Tamil Nadu
4. Shri Mrigendra Jalan
5. Shri Rajesh Chander B
6. Shri Rajib K.Gohain
7. Shri Sushil K.Berlia

Meetings of the Board/Development Committee:

During the year under report the Board/Development Committee met on 28th February 2023 at Kolkata for 248th Meeting of the Board. The meeting was organised through hybrid mode.

1. Tea Development and Promotion Scheme for the 15th Finance Commission Period from 2021-22 to 2025-26

The approval of the EFC for continuation of Tea Development & Promotion Scheme during the 15th Finance Commission Period 2021-22 to 2025-26 was accorded vide letter Ref.No.K-57013(11)/1/2021-Plant (A) dated 16th July, 2021 by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, Government of India for the total outlay of Rs.967.78 Crores.

The component wise, year wise financial outlay for the scheme is as follows:

Table:1- Component wise, year wise financial outlay for the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme during the 15th Finance Commission Period 2021-22 to 2025-26-

Sl no.		Rs. in Crores					
	Components	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	Total
1.	Plantation Development - Small Tea Growers	8.73	10.08	10.57	9.33	10.05	48.76
2.	Sector Specific Action Plan for NITI Forum for North East	13.04	19.95	21.59	21.81	21.69	98.08
3.	Market Promotion	1.85	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.70	10.85

4.	Welfare of Workers - Wards of the small tea growers	1.18	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.88	7.20
5.	Research &Development	10.53	12.29	12.29	12.29	12.39	59.79
6.	Regulatory functions including Auction reforms	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	5.00
7.	Pending Liability	298.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	298.76
8.	Establishment	74.32	83.12	88.71	93.91	99.28	439.34
	Total	**409.41**	**129.92**	**137.64**	**141.82**	**148.99**	**967.78**

The objective of the scheme is to improve the production, productivity, quality of the Indian teas in order to remain competitive in global markets, focus on the development of the small tea growers, their collectivization for moving up in value chain, value addition in teas for better price realization and share in export markets, explore the potential of tea grown in North Eastern States, focus in improving the per capita consumption of tea, improving tea exports from India to high value markets, encouraging research and development and other technological innovation to bring transparency in the entire supply chain as envisaged in the Tea Act, 1953.

Scheme components were on boarded on the Service Plus portal for online submission of application by beneficiaries and disbursement of financial assistance through DBT.

2. Receipt and Expenditure for the year 2022-23

The receipt and payment against the components under Development Directorate for the year 2022-23 are as follows:

Table: 2- Fund Received and Disbursed under the Development Component including SCSP & TASP of the Tea Development and Promotion Scheme during 2022-23

		(Rs. in Crores.)	
Sl. no	**Schemes/Component**	**Receipt**	**Expenditure**
1	Plantation Development for Small Tea Growers	15.03	15.02
2	Action plan for NITI Forum for North East	3.19	3.19
3	Welfare of Workers	3.22	3.23
4	Scheduled Caste Sub Plan	3.42	3.43
5	Tribal Area Sub Plan	3.12	3.05
	Total	**28.00**	**27.91**

3. Presence of Development Offices in India

Apart from two Zonal Offices, one each at Guwahati (Assam) for the entire North Eastern States and Coonoor (TN) for the entire South India, there are 15 Regional offices and 12 sub-regional offices, to cater to the needs of industry stakeholders at the grass roots level. The location are as follows:

Table:3 - Location of Regional and Sub-regional offices under Development Directorate-

States	Regional Office (R.O)	Sub Regional Office (S.R.O)
Arunachal Pradesh	1. Itanagar	
Assam	2. Jorhat	1. Sivsagar
	3. Silchar	2. BiswanathChariali
	4. Dibrugarh	3. Rajgarh
	5. Golaghat	4. Lakhimpur
	6. Tezpur	5. Sonari
	7. Tinsukia	6. Udalguri
Meghalaya		7. Umsing
Mizoram		8. Aizawl
Tripura	8. Agartala	9. Dharmanagar
Bihar		10. Thakurganj
Himachal Pradesh	9. Palampur	
Uttarakhand		11. Almorah
West Bengal	10. Siliguri	12. Kurseong, Darjeeling
	11.Jalpaiguri	
	12.Islampur	
	13.Birpara	
Kerala	14.Peermade, Idukki	
Tamil Nadu	15. Gudalur	

4. Enumeration of Small Growers and issuance of identity card with QR code:

The enumeration of small tea growers is an ongoing process and the total numbers of small tea growers enumerated till 31.03.2023 are as follows:

Table: 4.Status of issuance of QR Code based cards issued upto 31.03.2023

Sl.No.	State	No of Growers identified*	Area (Ha)*	No. of QR code based cards issued
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3526	7852	--
2.	Assam	125484	117304	90968
3.	Bihar	2856	2546	2101
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1526	710	560
5.	Manipur	473	347	--
6.	Meghalaya	734	936	399
7.	Mizoram	450	248	250
8.	Nagaland	2509	5005	2169

9.	Sikkim	35	14	--
10.	Tripura	2875	1423	856
11.	Uttarakhand	1489	678	394
12.	West Bengal	38210	24762	30988
	Total North India	**180167**	**161825**	**128685**
13.	Karnataka**	--	--	--
14.	Kerala	7985	5343	3542
15.	Tamil Nadu	48916	35697	25728
	Total South India	**56901**	**41040**	**29270**
	Total All India	**237068**	**202865**	**157955**

*Provisional, subject to revision.

** No small tea growers in the state of Karnataka.

T

Table: 5 Mini Tea Factories set up by small tea growers-

Sl No.	State / Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
1.	Assam	5	11	22	6	5	8	**57**
2.	Bihar		1					**1**
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1	3	8	2	1		**15**
4.	Kerala			2		1		**3**
5.	Meghalaya			1	2	1		**4**
6.	Nagaland			1				**1**
7.	Tamil Nadu	1		2		2		**5**
8.	Uttarakhand			1				**1**
9.	West Bengal	2		1	4		4	**11**
	Total	**9**	**15**	**38**	**14**	**10**	**12**	**98**

Table:6- Big tea factories set up by small tea growers-

Sl. No.	State	Year of setting up	Name of the factory	Form of ownership	Installed Capacity (M.kg)
1	Nagaland	2012	Echahaba Tea Factory	Farmer Producer Company	0.30
2	West Bengal	2013	Panbari Small Tea Grower's Society (SHG)	Society	0.7
3	West Bengal	2013	Nabajagaran Small Tea Grower's Self Help Group	Society	0.6
4	West Bengal	2013	Jai Jalpesh Small Tea Grower's Society (SHG)	Society	0.7
5	Assam	2015	Begoti Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	1.00
6	Kerala	2016	M/s. Thankamany Cooperative Tea Factory	Co-operative	0.90
7	Assam	2017	Anjali Tea Factory	Co-operative	0.30
8	Assam	2017	Shantibari Tea factory	Farmer Producer Company	0.30
9	Tripura	2018	BasumatiKhudra Cha UtpadakSwanirvar Welfare Society	Co-operative	0.17
10	Assam	2018	Mezengah Tea Factory	Farmer Producer Company	0.45
11	Assam	2018	Mother Tea Co-operative Society Ltd.	Co-operative	0.17
12	Assam	2019	Digboi Tea Producer Co. Ltd.	Farmer Producer Company	0.30

13	Assam	2019	Wameken Valley Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	0.40
14	Assam	2019	Gangmou Self-Help Tea Growers & Tea Industry Co –Operative Society	Co-operative	0.60
15	West Bengal	2019	Purba HarmatiKhudra Cha Chasi SwanirvarGosthi	Society	0.35
16	Assam	2020	Jogibheta Tea factory	Farmer Producer Company	0.30
17	Assam	2020	Bhairabi Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	0.30
18	West Bengal	2020	Kawagub Khudra Cha Chasi Swanirvar Gosthi	Society	0.6
19	Nagaland	2021	Atoqa Tea Factory	Farmer Producer Company	0.50
20	Assam	2021	Rowdwmsha STG Society	Farmer Producer Company	0.30
21	Assam	2022	Gamiri Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	0.60
22	Assam	2022	Eugene Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	0.50
23	Assam	2022	Jwnglary Agro & Tea Producer Company Limited	Farmer Producer Company	0.55
24	Assam	2022	Swarnalata Farmer Producer Company Ltd	Farmer Producer Company	0.50

7. Top Producers of tea

a. Top 5 Estate Factories in terms of tea production during 2022-23 are as follows-

Table: 7

Sl.No.	Factory Name	State
1	Kalaar Estate Tea Factory	Kerala
2	Venniar Tea Factory	Tamil Nadu
3	Rungamuttee Tea Factory	West Bengal
4	Chundavurrai Estate Tea Factory	Kerala
5	Kakajan Tea Factory	Assam

(source- Form E production returns)

b. Top 5 Bought Leaf Tea Factories in terms of tea production during 2022-23 are as follows-

Table: 8

Sl.No.	Factory Name	State
1	Dalmia Tea Plantation and Industries	West Bengal
2	Himalayan Tea Factory	West Bengal
3	Buds Tea Factory	West Bengal
4	Kunjabehari Tea Factory	West Bengal
5	Essels Tea Factory	West Bengal

(source- Form E production returns)

c. Top 5 estate tea factories that fetched highest price in Auction for CTC and Orthodox tea during 2022-23 are as follows:

Table: 9

Sl no.	CTC Tea		Sl no.	Orthodox Tea	
	Name of the factory	State		Name of the factory	State
1.	Halmari Tea Estate Factory	Assam	1.	Borahi Tea Factory	Assam
2.	Banamalie Tea Estate Factory	Assam	2.	Meenglass Tea Factory	West Bengal
3.	Behubor Tea Estate Factory	Assam	3.	Leesh River Tea Factory	West Bengal
4.	Gatoonga Tea Estate Factory	Assam	4.	Chalouni Tea Factory	West Bengal
5.	Sotai Tea Estate Factory	Assam	5.	Sankos Tea Factory	West Bengal

(source NSE.iT)

d. Top 5 estate factories that fetched highest price in Auction for Darjeeling tea during 2022-23 are as follows:

Table: 10

Sl no.	Darjeeling (West Bengal) Name of the factory
1.	Giddapahar Tea Estate Factory
2.	Happy Valley Tea Estate Factory
3.	Balasun & Murmah Tea Estate Factory
4.	Jungpana Tea Estate Factory
5.	Springside Tea Estate Factory

(sourceNSE.iT)

e. Top 5 Bought leaf tea factories that fetched highest price in Auction for CTC and Orthodox tea during 2022-23 are as follows -

Table: 11

Sl no.	CTC Tea		Sl no.	Orthodox Tea	
	Name of the factory	State		Name of the factory	State
1.	Real Assam Tea Industries	Assam	1.	Avataa Beverages	Tamil Nadu
2.	Mahalaxmi Tea Industry	Assam	2.	SiruRijoTea Factory	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Bishnupriya Tea Industries	Assam	3.	Bohniman Tea Factory	Assam
4.	Langto Tea Industry	Nagaland	4.	Shristi Tea Industry	Assam
5.	Papum Pare Tea Factory	Arunachal Pradesh	5.	Rajajuli Tea Factory	Assam

(sourceNSE.iT)

8. **Factory Closure**:

The tea manufacturing units were closed during the period of winter dormancy in North India (December, 2022 to March, 2023) in order to curb the production of sub-standard teas and to improve the quality.

9. **Closed Tea Estates:**

a. **General**

There are 1567 big tea estates in the country, out of which presently 06 are reported to be closed. The workers in the tea plantations are protected primarily by the provisions of the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, the provisions of which are enforced by the concerned State Governments.

b. **Reasons of closure/Stress**

There is no specific definition for closed/stressed tea gardens as per Tea Act. A Garden is considered closed/stressed by the Tea Board on the basis of the report received from the concerned State Govt. The main reasons may be attributed to poor yield of the estates, ageing bush profile and high vacancy percentage in tea area, negligible or nil uprooting / replanting of age-old tea bushes for years, poor garden management practices, falling quality and price realizations, unease in industrial relations, overall lack of development perspective, highly debt-oriented funding strategy, ownership disputes etc.

The details of tea estates closed in the country are as follows-

Table:12- Tea Estates closed in the country-

Sl. No.	Name of the tea estates (T.E)	Area under Tea (Ha)	State	Date of Closure	No. of Workers		Current Status
					Permanent	Temporary	
1	Panighata T.E.	460.15	West Bengal	10.10.2015	787	--	Labour unrest due to non-payment of workers dues etc.
2	LankaparaT.E	758.45		-	1705	816	The garden was notified under section 16 (E) of Tea Act. The Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta vide order dated 20th September, 2016 had directed the Duncans to take over the management of seven notified gardens including Lankapara. However the Duncan Industries Ltd. failed to reopen the garden. In the meantime, all the assets/gardens of Duncan Industries Ltd. ca

3	Dooteriah T E	444.92		09.06.2019	1248	4	Labour unrest due to non-payment of workers dues etc. and mismanagement.
4	Peermade & Lonetree T.E.	679.79	Kerala	01.04.2016	220	--	Labour unrest due to non-settlement of labour dues etc. The Govt. of Kerala is in the process of reopening the estate.
5	Kottamala & Bonami T.E	677.51		23.12.2013/ 11.10.2014	375	--	The company has got a stay order from the Kerala High Court prohibiting action against the company presently. The Board is in the process of getting the stay vacated.
6	Bonnacord T.E	378.00		05.03.2015	220	--	Estate Management has abandoned the estate due to financial crisis.
	Total	**3398.82**			**4555**	**820**	

10. **Wages of Tea Garden Workers**

The wages for workers and staff employed in tea estates in Assam and West Bengal are fixed through a process of negotiations held between the Management and the workers' Unions. The wage negotiations for West Bengal are conducted in the presence of the Labour Commissioner.

In case of Assam the negotiations are concluded at a Bi-partite level and thereafter the agreement is sent to the State Government. The same is examined by the State Government and notified under the Minimum Wages Act for plantation workers.

In case of Kerala, wages are determined through Tripartite Agreement between the Estate Management, Trade Unions and State Govt. Subsequently it is also notified. In case of Tamil Nadu, wages are fixed through collective bargaining between the Tea Producers Associations and Estate Management and in case of Karnataka wage fixation is notified by the State Govt.

Table:13- Current State-wise Wages in Tea Plantation-

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Plantation District	Effective Date/Period	Daily wages (Rs)
1	Assam	a) Brahmaputra valley	01-08-2022	232.00
		b) Barak valley		210.00
2	West Bengal	a) Dooars	01-01-2022	232.00
		b) Terai		
		c) Darjeeling		
3	Tripura		01-01-2022	176.00
4	Tamil Nadu	a)Annamalais, b)Nilgiris and c)Nilgiri-Wayanad	01-09-2021	412.65
5	Kerala	a)Idukki, b)Waynad	01-01-2019 & Revised wage w.e.f.01-01-2023	435.03
6	Karnataka		23-12-2017	376.78
7	Himachal Pradesh		01-04-2022	350.00
8	Uttarakhand		01-08-2022	347.00
9	Sikkim		11-07-2022	500.00
10	Bihar		01-01-2020	175.00

Table: 14- Region wise fund utilization and achievements during 2022-23 under Tea Development & Promotion Scheme : Development activities

14.1	Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: All India Physical & Financial achievement for the FY 2022-23 including SCSP & TASP															
		North East			West Bengal including Bihar			South India			Himachal &Uttarakhand			Total (All India)		
Component	Major Activity/Sub Component	Financial (Rs. In lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Area(ha.) / Million Kg/No. of Events / equipment/ STG	Financial (Rs. In lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Area (ha.) / Million Kg/No. of Events/ equipment/ STG	Financial (Rs. In lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Area (ha.) / Million Kg/No. of Events/ equipment/ STG	Financial (Rs. In lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Area (ha.) / Million Kg/No. of Events/ equipment/ STG	Financial (Rs. In lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Area(ha.) / Million Kg/No. of Events/ equipment/ STG
A. PDS-STG	1. Mechanization	41.39	79	758	102.74	173	894	60.38	300	406	0.34	5	6	204.85	557	2064
	2. Assistance to SHGs	334.87	2314	89	1.25	308	1	52.05	353	17	2.68	30	2	390.85	3005	109
	3. Assistance to FPOs	454.69	1983	38	503.93	5272	51	181.79	3018	72	24.40	350	14	1164.81	10623	175
	4. Annual Awards	1.80	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.80	3	3
	5. Assistance for Mini Factory	59.70	26	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	7.85	1	1	67.55	27	6
	6. Workshop & Training	124.60	12460	623	20.74	3080	154	16.92	2302	46	5.04	1656	37	167.30	19498	860
	7. Strengthening of field offices	36.80	--	--	10.84	--	--	34.18	--	--	1.00	--	--	82.82	--	--
	8. Upgradation of skills/ NAFCC/ traceability/ newsletter publication	13.67	25	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13.67	25	--
	9. Soil Testing	3.11	1016		0.14	50	50	0.88	4	0	0.00	0	0	4.13	1070	50
	10. Organic farm inputs	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.55	4	--	--	--	--	0.55	4	--

	11. Other admin expenses/ bank charges	0.01	--	--	0.10	--	--	0.39	--	--	0.01	--	--	0.51	--	--
	Sub Total	**1070.64**	**17906**	**1516**	**639.74**	**8883**	**1150**	**347.14**	**5981**	**541**	**41.31**	**2042**	**60**	**2098.83**	**34812**	**3267**
B. NITI Forum	1. Ensuring quality check and drawing & testing of tea samples	18.60	67	83	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18.60	67	83
	2. Organic Conversion	33.71	11	40.31	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	33.71	11	40.31
	3. Incentive for Exporters	160.95	10	8.05	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	160.95	10	8.05
	4. Brand building of tea produced in NER	105.49	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	105.49	--	30
	Sub Total	**318.75**	**88**	**161.36**	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	**318.75**	**88**	**161.36**
C. Welfare of Workers	1. Educational Stipend	62.34	666	--	34.17	235	--	134.86	806	--	8.80	44	--	240.17	1751	--
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	32.02	400	--	27.12	366	--	8.40	104	--	--	--	--	67.54	870	--
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	20.70	207	--	33.30	333	--	12.00	120	--	0.20	2	--	66.20	662	--
	Sub Total	**115.06**	**1273**	--	**94.59**	**934**	--	**155.26**	**1030**	--	**9.00**	**46**	--	**373.91**	**3283**	--
	Grand Total	**1504.45**	**19267**	**1677.36**	**734.33**	**9817**	**1150**	**502.40**	**7011**	**541**	**50.31**	**2088**	**60**	**2791.49**	**38183**	**3428.36**

14.2 Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement for North Eastern States (NER) for the FY 2022-23 including SCSP & TASP

NER state wise		Assam		Tripura		Arunachal Pradesh		Nagaland		Meghalaya		Mizoram		Manipur		Total NER	
Component	Major Activity/ subcomponent	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries
A. PDS-STG	1. Mechanization	41.39	79	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	41.39	79
	2. Assistance to SHGs	260.37	2127	--	--	--	--	74.50	187	--	--	--	--	--	--	334.87	2314
	3. Assistance to FPOs	384.27	1781	3.98	26	--	--	66.09	149	0.35	27	--	--	--	--	454.69	1983
	4. Annual Awards	1.80	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.80	3
	5. Assistance for Mini Factory	59.70	26	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	59.70	26
	6. Workshop & Training	116.60	11660	3.60	360	4.00	400	--	--	0.40	40	--	--	--	--	124.60	12460

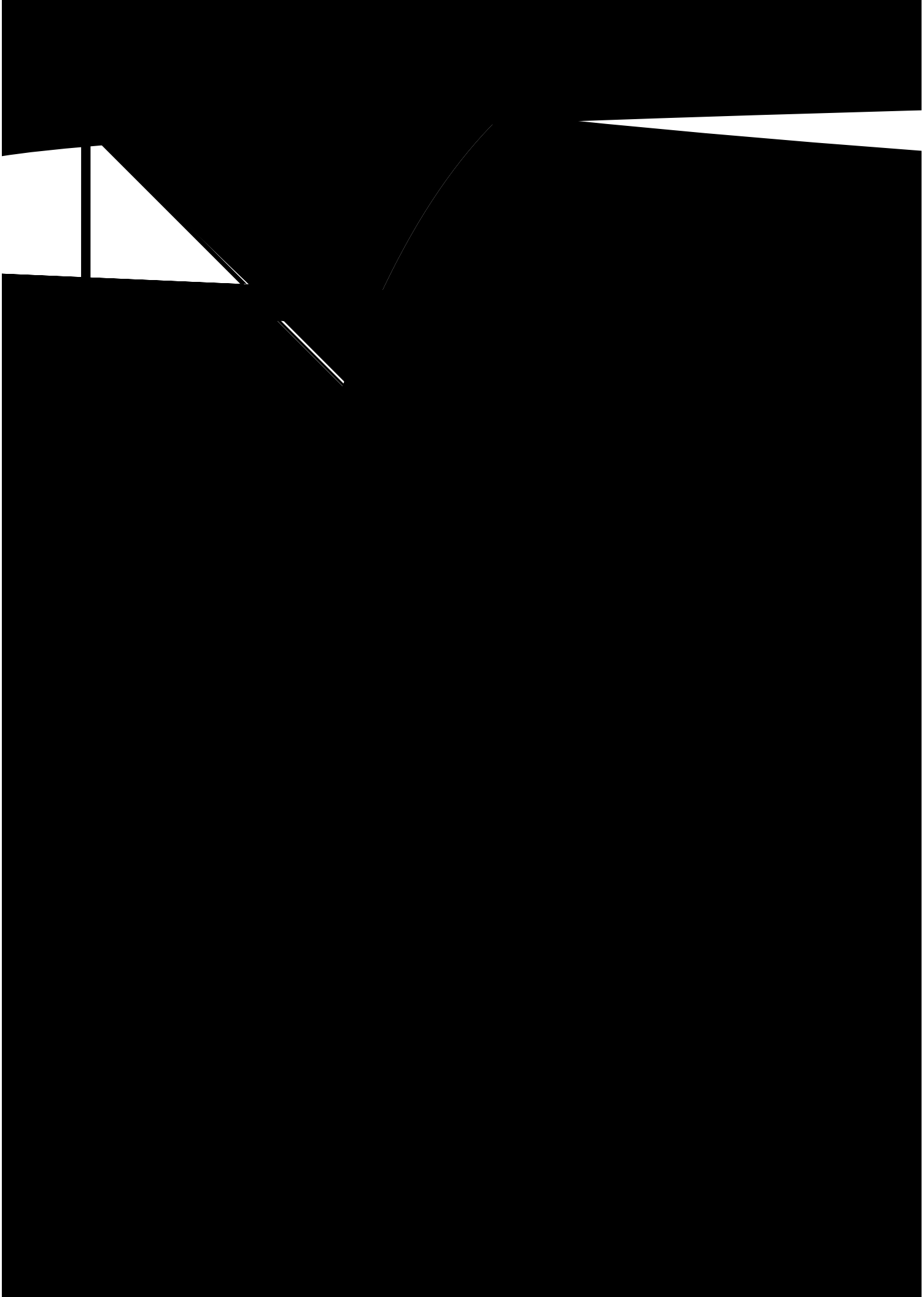
	7. Strengthening of field offices	34.14	--	1.45	--	0.68	--	--	--	0.18	--	0.35	--	--	--	36.80	--
	8. Upgradation of skills/ NAFCC/ traceability/ news letter publication	13.67	25	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13.67	25
	9. Soil Testing	3.11	1016	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.11	1016
	10. Other admin expenses/ bank charges	0.01	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.01	--
	Sub total	**915.06**	**16717**	**9.03**	**386**	**4.68**	**400**	**140.59**	**336**	**0.93**	**67**	**0.35**	--	--	--	**1070.64**	**17906**
B. NITI Forum for North East	1. Ensuring quality check and drawing & testing of tea samples	18.60	67	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18.60	67
	2. Organic Conversion	1.00	1	--	--	--	--	32.71	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	33.71	11

	3. Incentive for Exporters (M. Kg)	160.95	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	160.95	10
	4. Brand building of tea produced in NER	91.08	--	5.37	--	4.75	--	0.97	--	0.96	--	--	--	2.36	--	105.49	--
	Sub total	**271.63**	**78**	**5.37**	--	**4.75**	--	**33.68**	**10**	**0.96**	--	--	--	**2.36**	--	**318.75**	**88**
C. Welfare of workers	1. Educational Stipend	60.34	647	1.23	13	--	--	0.66	4	0.11	2	--	--	--	--	62.34	666
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	31.14	389	0.16	2	--	--	0.64	8	0.08	1	--	--	--	--	32.02	400
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	20.00	200	0.50	5	--	--	0.20	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	20.70	207
	Sub total	**111.48**	**1236**	**1.89**	**20**	--	--	**1.50**	**14**	**0.19**	**3**	--	--	--	--	**115.06**	**1273**
	Grand total	**1298.17**	**18031**	**16.29**	**406**	**9.43**	**400**	**175.77**	**360**	**2.08**	**70**	**0.35**	**0**	**2.36**	--	**1504.45**	**19267**

14.3 Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement for Other than North Eastern States (ONER) for the FY 2022-23 including SCSP & TASP

ONER State wise		Darjeeling GI		West Bengal (other than Darjeeling GI)		Bihar		Tamil Nadu		Kerala		Himachal		Uttarakhand		Total ONER	
Component	Major Activity	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries
A. PDS-STG	1. Mechanization	9.03	21	92.89	148	0.82	4	58.03	282	2.35	18	0.34	5	0.00	0	163.46	478
	2. Assistance to SHGs	1.25	308			0	0	36.70	323	15.35	30	2.68	30	0.00	0	55.98	691
	3. Assistance to FPOs	13.4	143	490.5	5129	0	0	156.53	2810	25.26	208	21.46	270	2.94	80	710.12	8640
	4. Assistance for Mini Factory			0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	7.85	1	0.00	0	7.85	1
	5. Workshop & Training	1.7	280	17.6	2560	1.44	240	14.98	1994	1.94	308	4.46	1472	0.58	184	42.70	7038
	6. Strengthening of field offices	0.44		9.59		0.81	0	29.26	0	4.92	0	0.00	0	1.00	0	46.02	0
	7. Soil Testing			0.14	50	0	0	0.88	4	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	1.02	54

	8. Organic farm inputs(ha)			0	0	0	0	0.15	1	0.40	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.55	4
	9. Admin expenses/ bank charges			0.1	0	0	0	0.22	0	0.00	0	0.01	0	0.00	0	0.33	0
	Sub total	**25.82**	**752**	**610.85**	**7887**	**3.07**	**244**	**296.75**	**5414**	**50.22**	**567**	**36.78**	**1778**	**4.52**	**264**	**1028.02**	**16906**
B. Welfare	1. Educational Stipend	5.69	35	27.15	193	1.33	7	131.13	782	3.73	24	8.05	40	0.76	4	177.83	1085
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	0.32	4	26.48	358	0.32	4	6.32	78	2.08	26	0.00	0	0.00	0	35.52	470
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	0.2	2	33.1	331	0	0	9.60	96	2.40	24	0.20	2	0.00	0	45.50	455
	Sub total	**6.21**	**41**	**86.73**	**882**	**1.65**	**11**	**147.05**	**956**	**8.21**	**74**	**8.25**	**42**	**0.76**	**4**	**258.85**	**2010**
	Grand total	**32.03**	**793**	**697.6**	**8769**	**4.72**	**255**	**443.80**	**6370**	**58.43**	**641**	**45.03**	**1820**	**5.28**	**268**	**1286.87**	**18916**



B. NITI Forum	1.Ensuring quality check and drawing & testing of tea samples	18.60	67	83.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18.60	67	83
	2.Organic Conversion	33.71	11	40.31	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	33.71	11	40
	Sub total	**52.31**	**78.00**	**123.31**	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	**52.31**	**78**	**123.31**
	Grand total	**1072.47**	**17959**	**1639.31**	**628.80**	**8883**	**1150**	**312.57**	**5981**	**541**	**40.30**	**2042**	**60**	**2054.14**	**34865**	**3390.31**

14.5 Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement for Small Tea Growers for FY 2022-23 State wise in North East (NER)

		Assam		Tripura		Arunachal Pradesh		Nagaland		Meghalaya		NER Total	
Sl No.	**Activity**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No of beneficiaries**
1	Field mechanisation	41.39	79	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	41.39	79
2	Assistance to SHGs	260.37	2127	--	--	--	--	74.50	187	--	--	334.87	2314
3	Assistance to FPOs	384.27	1781	3.98	26	--	--	66.09	149	0.35	27	454.69	1983
4	Assistance for Setting up mini tea factory(STG)	59.70	26	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	59.70	26
5	Workshop training program	116.60	11660	3.60	360	4.00	400	--	--	0.40	40	124.60	12460
6	Soil testing	3.11	1016	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.11	1016

7	Annual Award	1.80	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.80	3
8	Organic Conversion	1.00	1	--	--	--	--	32.71	10	--	--	33.71	11
9	Ensuring quality check and drawing & testing of tea samples	18.60	67	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18.60	67
	Total	**886.84**	**16760**	**7.58**	**386**	**4.00**	**400**	**173.30**	**346**	**0.75**	**67**	**1072.47**	**17959**

14.6 Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement for Small Tea Growers for FY 2022-23 State wise in Other than North East (ONER)

State wise achievement under Small tea growers (STG) for the F Y 2022-23 -other than North Easter region															
		West Bengal		Bihar		Tamil Nadu		Kerala		Himachal		Uttarakhand		ONER Total	
Sl No.	Activity	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No of beneficiaries
1	Field mechanisation	101.92	169	0.82	4	58.03	282	2.35	18	0.34	5.00	--	--	163.46	478
2	Assistance to SHGs	1.25	308	--	--	--	323	15.35	30	2.68	30.00	--	--	55.98	691
3	Assistance to FPOs	503.93	5272	0.00	0.00	156.53	2810	25.26	208	21.46	270.00	2.94	80	710.12	8640
4	Assistance for Setting up mini tea factory	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7.85	1.00	--	--	7.85	1

5	workshop training program	19.30	2840	1.44	240.00	14.98	1994	1.94	308	4.46	1472.00	0.58	184	42.70	7038
6	Soil testing	0.14	50	0.00	0.00	0.88	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.02	54
7	Annual Award	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
8	Organic Conversion	--	--	--	--	0.15	1	0.40	3	--	--	--	--	0.55	4
	Total	**626.54**	**8639**	**2.26**	**244**	**267.27**	**5414**	**45.30**	**567**	**36.78**	**1778**	**3.52**	**264**	**981.67**	**16906**

14.7. Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers for FY 2022-23

Physical & financial achievement under welfare of workers for the FY 2022-23											
		North East		West Bengal including Bihar		South India		Himachal Pradesh &Uttrakhand		Total(All India)	
Component	**Major Activity/Sub Component**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**
WELFARE OF WORKERS	1. Educational Stipend	62.34	666	34.17	235	134.86	806	8.80	44	240.17	1751
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	32.02	400	27.12	366	8.40	104	0.00	0	67.54	870
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	20.70	207	33.30	333	12.00	120	0.20	2	66.20	662
	Sub total	**115.06**	**1273**	**94.59**	**934**	**155.26**	**1030**	**9.00**	**46**	**373.91**	**3283**

14.8 Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers for FY 2022-23 State wise

State	Assam	Tripura	Nagaland	Meghalaya	West Bengal	Bihar	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Himachal Pradesh	Uttarakhand	Total
Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	111.48	1.89	1.5	0.19	92.94	1.65	147.05	8.21	8.246	0.756	**373.91**
No. of beneficiaries	1236	20	14	3	923	11	956	74	42	4	**3283**

14.9.Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement under Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) for FY 2022-23 Region wise

		North East			West Bengal including Bihar			South India			Himachal Pradesh &Uttarakhand			Total(All India)		
Component	**Major Activity/ Sub Component**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**
A. PDS-STG	1.Mechanization	17.59	40	452	67.48	99	624	46.00	140	201	--	--	--	131.07	279	1277
	2. Assistance to SHGs	28.31	346	14	--	--	--	28.65	155	8	--	--	--	56.96	501	22
	3. Assistance to FPOs	--	--	--	68.46	623	6	26.14	79	3	2.44	48	2	97.04	750	11

	4. Workshop & Training	20.00	2000	100	--	--	--	1.85	167	5	2.48	781	18	24.33	2948	123
	Sub Total	**65.90**	**2386**	**566**	**135.94**	**722**	**630**	**102.64**	**541**	**217**	**4.92**	**829**	**20**	**309.40**	**4478**	**1433**
B. WELFARE OF WORKERS	1.Educational Stipend	2.61	28	--	6.44	53	--	0.75	5	--	0.18	1	--	9.98	87	--
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	0.48	6	--	10.96	137	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11.44	143	--
	3.Award for meritorious students Class XII	0.20	2	--	11.90	119	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12.10	121	--
	Sub Total	**3.29**	**36**	**--**	**29.30**	**309**	**--**	**0.75**	**5**	**--**	**0.18**	**1**	**--**	**33.52**	**351**	**--**
	Grand Total	**69.19**	**2422**	**566**	**165.24**	**1031**	**630**	**103.39**	**546**	**217**	**5.10**	**830**	**20**	**342.92**	**4829**	**1433**

14.10.Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement under Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) for FY 2022-23 State wise

State wise	Assam	Tripura	West Bengal	Bihar	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Himachal Pradesh	Uttarakhand	Total
Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	68.59	0.60	165.16	0.08	93.74	9.65	2.08	3.02	342.92
No. of beneficiaries	2362	60	1030	1	537	9	598	232	4829

14.11.Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical and Financial achievement under Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP) for FY 2022-23 Region wise.

		North East			West Bengal including Bihar			South India			Himachal Pradesh &Uttarakhand			Total (All India)		
Major Head	**Major Activity/ Sub Component**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events / No. of equipment/ STG**
A. PDS-STG	1. Mechanization	23.51	36	303	33.25	60	252	6.52	26	41	--	--	--	63.28	122	596
	2. Assistance to SHGs	94.72	433	19	--	--	--	15.63	108	4	0.15	15	1	110.50	556	24
	3. Assistance to FPOs	69.76	201	8	2.19	32	1	18.30	1172	40	--	--	--	90.25	1405	49
	4. Assistance for Mini Factory	10.59	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10.59	3	3

11. **Other activities**:

Apart from implementation of the Board's scheme, the field officers are responsible for providing advisory services to the small tea growers, bought leaf tea factories, collectivization of the small tea growers in formation of the Self Help Groups, FPOs & FPC, vigil on the quality of raw materials as well as made tea, implementation of compliance to Plant Protection Code, collection of various statistical data that help in formulation of policies, organizing workshops/seminars on different technical issues, promotion of tea, creating awareness on quality and health benefits for increasing domestic consumption, hand holding the small tea growers for availing assistance from other Government bodies/MSME, collecting tea samples for analysis under various quality parameters, encouraging growers to cultivate organic teas for better price realization, encouraging factory owners for product diversification and value addition etc. All such activities are aimed towards doubling the farmer's income, to make them self-sustainable and self-reliant- a step towards AtmaNirbhar Bharat.

a. **The details of workshops/seminars/awareness program conducted by the Board's offices during 2022-23 in the country**

Table: 15

Region	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**No. of Events**
North Bengal and Bihar	20.74	3080	154
North East	124.60	12460	623
South India	16.92	2302	46
Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand	5.04	1656	37
Total	**167.30**	**19498**	**860**

b. **Important Development Events in North Eastern States**

7th Indian Industrial Fair, UDYAM'2022 at Khanapara, Guwahati during 22.04.2022 to 25.04.2022 organised by Laghu Udyog Bharti. Shri Som Prakash, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India graced the occasion on 25th April'2022.

"Eat Right Mela" held on 09-04-2022 organized by the Food Safety & Standards Authority "Directorate of Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine", Govt. of Tripura. The Mela was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb.

North East Food Show from 5th to 7th May'2022 at Shillong, Meghalaya organized by Directorate of Food Processing, Government of Meghalaya. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya and Sikkim visited Board's Stall on 5th May, 2022.

Stakeholders' consultation on formulation of packaging standards through Indian Institute of Packaging, Kolkata at Dibrugarh on 25.06.2022.

Two days Entrepreneurship Development Programme for small tea growers including at Golaghat, Assam in collaboration with Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati on 27th& 28th July'2022.

Collection of soil samples in the Small Tea Growers Field

Workshops, Seminars, Virtual meetings, advisory services, regulatory activities

Quality check: Inspection of compliance of PPC approved Chemicals

c. Important Development events in South India

Inauguration of Specialty Tea Boutique at Aavin, Ooty, the Nilgiris on 12.12.2022 by Dr. M. Muthukumar, IAS, Executive Director South the Shri S.P.Amrith IAS, District Collector, the Nilgiris

Study Tour to Tribal Growers held on 07.03.2023, trip to Natural Farming, Pandalur, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu

Hand holding SHGs and Training for Small tea growers at Pasupara, Peermade, Idukki, Kerala on 20.06.2022

Training / workshop conducted at Thambatty, C.Manihatty, The Nilgiris on 12.1.2023

Training/Workshop conducted at Rousdamullai Tea factory and Kollimalai The Nilgiris on 20.1.2023

Meeting with the stakeholders and distribution of farm implements by Shri Saurav Pahari, IAS, Deputy Chairman, Tea Board and Dr. M. Muthukumar, IAS, Executive Director-South India

d. Important Development Events in North Bengal Region

Celebration of 69th Foundation of Tea Board India observed by Board's ZO, Siliguri.

Officers and Officials from Board's Offices attended virtual meeting with Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India as part of observance of the 69th Foundation Day of Tea Board India on 1st April, 2022.

Meeting chaired by Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State, Commerce & Industry, Government of India with Small Tea Growers' Representatives at State Guest House, Siliguri on 19th November 2022.

Visit of Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS, Union Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India to North Bengal from 20.01.2023 to 22.01.2023

Demonstration on Pruning and training program on Cold weather practices at Naayahat (Sudamgach), Darjeeling, West Bengal on 20.12.2022

One Day Workshop cum Seminar for the small tea growers at Lataguri, Kranti block, Dist. Jalpaiguri on Cold weather operations and Speciality Tea on 22.11.2022.

Training cum Workshop at Rabindra FPC, Fulkadabari, Mekhliganj, Coochbehar on 29.07.2022

e. Glimpses of important events in Himachal Pradesh

Interaction of Stakeholders, Kangra Tea Industry with the Commerce Secretary, Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS during his Visit to Palampur during 16.12.2022 to 19.12.2022

On campus Training programme and off campus field visit organized by Tea Board RO Palampur

CHAPTER-5:

TEA RESEARCH

Research Directorate of Tea Board India coordinates and evaluates Tea Research with the assistance of three Tea Research Institutes (TRIs) engaged in conducting Tea Research & Development activities throughout India i.e. Tea Research Association (TRA) for North India, UPASI-Tea Research Foundation for South India, and Darjeeling Tea Research & Development Centre (DTRDC) for Darjeeling. The Research & Development activities undertaken during (2022-2023) are summarized hereunder:-

5.1 Tea Research Association (TRA):

The year 2022-23 saw the industry gradually freeing itself from the clutches of the Covid-related restrictions. However, extreme weather conditions in some parts of Assam and West Bengal, however, adversely impacted the productivity of the plantations located in these regions. TRA too encountered some hiccups, mostly due to the prevailing financial crunch, but still managed to make notable progress in several key areas.

5.1.1 Analysis of trends in Climate Change:

To identify trends in rainfall patterns, data related to the total rainfall in the South Bank region of Assam was plotted, and a downward trend was observed, implying a decrease in total rainfall over time. The total quantum of decrease was found to be more than 200 mm since 1918. Total rainfall in 2022 was found to be 1869.4 mm which is lower by 134.2 mm than the long-term normal of 2003.6 mm. Analysis of long-term temperature data in the South Bank region of Assam since 1923 exhibited an increasing trend in the maximum temperature, with a particularly steep increase during the last two years. Being a plantation crop tea is innately vulnerable to the risks and impacts of climate change. Adoptions of corrective measures are therefore crucial. Rainwater harvesting in tea plantations has been identified as one such approach, which may serve as an excellent reservoir of rainwater for use in irrigation purposes during droughty periods. Under the project "National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystems – Taskforce on Agriculture", a study on the impact of rainwater harvesting on the microclimate of an area was initiated as an important adaptation measure against climate change. In a bid to determine the critical/threshold values of carbon dioxide in tea, some popular garden series clones were planted in pots. These potted plants were then placed under elevated temperatures and in the ambient environment. Initial plant data such as plant height, collar diameter, branch number, and leaf number were measured. The plants in one of the chambers were enriched initially with 550 ppm of carbon dioxide. After one hundred hours of enrichment, the plant morphological parameters were measured and the growth was monitored. After increasing the level of carbon dioxide to 650 ppm and 750 ppm, the morphological parameters were measured after every hundred hours of interval. Enrichment of carbon dioxide level up to 850 ppm was completed and the same morphological parameters were measured accordingly.

5.1.2 Tea Agronomy:

Under an experiment on drip irrigation, modification of treatment was done with the integration of 2% microbial consortium (Azotobacter + Azospirillum + PSB) and laid out in the Randomised Block Design with 11 treatments and 3 replications. During the period 2022-23, the bushes were left unpruned and the results revealed that treatment with irrigation at 100% ET loss + 100% RDF + 2% microbial consortium produced a 21.46% increase in yield, which was found to be significant over rainfed control. On the other hand, the treatment at 100% ET loss + 75% RDF + 2% microbial consortium and treatment at 100% ET loss + 50% RDF + 2% microbial consortium was found to be at par, indicating 19.24% and 19.06%

A study was initiated on the varietal preference and nutritional indices of tea looper (*Hyposidra talaca*) on selected tea varieties. To ascertain the varietal preference of *H. talaca* larvae, the leaves of four selected tea cultivars were provided separately to II, III, IV, and V instars**.** The food consumption and weight gain by the larvae of *H. talaca* were observed to be significantly different in the selected tea cultivars**.** The body weight gain by III instar larvae was also found to be highest when fed on TV-20 followed by Soongachi-38, TV-1, and 107/17.

5.1.4 Disease Management:

In-vitro antagonistic screening assay was undertaken for the *Fusarium* species against few microbial strains and the percentage inhibition was recorded in the range of 27.15-59.95%.

A field trial was laid at Diffloo Tea Garden having severe pest and disease problems, where two rounds of *Trichoderma* as soil application and *Bacillus subtilis* as foliar spray were applied at 15 days intervals, which showed a better recovery**.** Anothertrial at Dooria Tea Garden against *Fusarium* dieback revealed a reduction up to 49.6% when BST was applied @ 2% concentration followed by Actinomycetes with 42.2% over control.

Trials were conducted at Rangajan of Titabor against red rust disease using extracts of seven herbal species. The maximumdiseasereductionachieved wasup to73.55%dueto the applicationof the herbal extract consortium.

Bacterial isolates from Okayti and Patharjhora and *Trichoderma reesei* from Patharjhora were evaluated against *Fusarium* dieback, grey blight, blister blight and red rust through large scale field trials at different locations including a research plot at NBRRDC, Nagrakata (red rust, grey blight, *Fusarium* dieback), Jiti Tea Garden (*Fusarium* dieback, red rust), Goomtee Tea Garden (blister blight, *Fusarium* dieback), ***Rungamattee Tea garden (Fusarium dieback, red rust)***, and Sannyasithan Tea Garden (*Fusarium* dieback and red rust) in 2022. For the field trial, 2%, 5%, and 10% aqueous solution of each bacterial antagonist and 1%, 2%, and 5% aqueous solution of *T. reesei* were prepared from broth cultures under aseptic conditions, separately in sterile water. Two rounds of spray at 15 days intervals were carried out at each location. The results revealed that the bacterial isolates exhibited potential efficacy in reduction of red rust disease at each location and among the concentrations used, 5% was found to be more effective than 2% but both values were statistically not significant.

The potential of *T. reesei,* ***Microbacterium paraoxydans, and Bacillus*** *subtilis* in decomposing pruning litters was assessed through pot experiments at 2%, 5%, and 10% dosages of developed aqueous formulation. The results revealed that after 20 days of two rounds of spray, 5 g reduction in weight of pruning litters compared to control was observed.

27 gray blight samples were collected from different tea gardens of West Bengal for morpho-molecular characterization. Morphological-molecular (ITS sequencing) studies revealed that these isolates belonged to three genera i.e. *Pseudo pestalotiopsis, Neo pestalotiopsis,* and *Pestalotiopsis*. The isolates were further screened against PPC-listed fungicides to identify resistant/tolerant isolates using the poison food method. It was observed that the isolates from Indong, Dalgaon, Bhatpara, Sannyasithan, Paharghoomiah, Selim-hill and Rangaroon Tea Gardens were insensitive against carbendazim + mancozeb.

In-vitro antagonistic activity of isolated *Trichoderma* and bacterial species against *Pseudopestalotiopsis theae* was assessed. The isolated *Trichoderma* and bacterial species from different tea gardens were evaluated for their efficacy against grey blight pathogens. It is evident that among the isolated *Trichoderma* species, isolates from Patharjhora (TRPATH01), Tindharia (TRTIND02), Okayti (TROK01), Seyok (TRSEY01) and Ging (TRGING01) exhibited significantly (P<0.001) higher antagonistic activity (>75%).

Studies on plant growth promotion (PGP) activity and antifungal traits were carried out and the potential antagonist(s) were evaluated for PGP (ammonia production, Indole acetic acid production, and phosphate solubilization) and antifungal (cellulase, protease,

β-1,3 g
01 (178
isolate

tical Se

earch pr
s) in t
of teas
am, We
and
natograp
letection
ough qua

emistry:

s were
e and in
d from
The corr

catechin
d decaff
14502-2:
attempt
e analys
and caffe
house pr
with sp
the comm
d autum
non-volat
organo
nodox tea

anufactu

tY-funde
rm for N
Jadavpu
ed which
he robot

pment o
tea was
ed to the
rkers. It i
T-BIRAC.
ess was a

5.1.8 Biotechnological Advances:

Germplasm characterization based on morpho-physiological and biochemical traitswas done in 95 germplasms of Tocklai and 20 germplasms of Nagrakata. Estimations of total proline, total free amino acid, total protein, total soluble sugar, photosynthesis estimation, total chlorophyll content, carotenoid and epicuticular wax content were carried out.

DUS characterization of 115 germplasms for young leaf and mature leaf characters was undertaken. Leaf image acquisition was carried out for 95 germplasms (20 replication each) and 30 TV clones (50 replication each) for the creation of annotated dataset comprising of 3,400 high-resolution images for estimation of phenotypic variability present in the germplasm set. For value addition and product diversification in tea, cytotoxicity of purified theaflavins; theaflavin (TF-1), theaflavin monogallate (TF-2), theaflavin digallate (TF-3) and crude theaflavin were evaluated in HT-29 (human colon cells) and A-549 (human lung cell). Further, non-cytotoxic concentrations of TF3 in HT-29 cells were evaluated for anti-oxidant potential in menadione (stress inducer) treated cells. An effective concentration of 75 µg/ml was further confirmed with malon-di-aldehyde (MDA) assay. The WHO-recommended Cytokinesis Block Micro-nuclease (CBMN) assay was done for assessment of any genotoxic effect of effective concentration, which was found to be a safe dose.

In an attempt to understand the probable pesticide resistance mechanism in pests, isolation and characterization of 13 gut bacteria from *Hyposidra talaca* and 6 gut bacteria from *Eterusia aedea* was undertaken along with the molecular identification using the 16S rRNA gene. Standardization of protocol for gene expression of the Cytochrome p450, General esterase and Glutathione-S-Transferase, and housekeeping gene Actin-A3 and GAPDH from the tea looper using qPCR was also initiated.

5.1.9 Soil & Manuring:

A field trial was conducted on the Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) practices in mature tea with different fertilizer doses, organic manures, and microbial consortia. The result of the experiment revealed that 25% of recommended doses of N and K and 50% of recommended doses of P can be replaced with judicious use of a consortium of microbial bio-fertilizer formulations without affecting the soil nutrient levels and soil health for sustainable production of tea. Although the cost of production could be on the higher side during the initial years of INM practice, in the long run, it might be possible to reduce the cost of production provided the organic manures are produced *in-situ*.

A pot experiment was conducted with different doses of biochar-based manures in the soil and the results revealed that due to the application of biochar, the soil pH was found to have significantly increased compared to control (27%). A combined application of biochar and vermicompost was found to increase soil organic carbon content by 33% over control. The biochar, vermicompost, and biofertilizer treatment combinations were found to significantly increase the soil available N and K content by 42% and 63%, respectively as compared to the control.

A Randomized Block Design (RBD) field trial was carried out to evaluate the effectiveness of Liquid Nano Urea on the yield and quality of tea in North-East India. The study was conducted with different treatment combinations with three replications. The results revealed a gradual decrease in crop yield (from 3.62% to 11.89%) when decreasing the nano-urea dose from 100% to 50% of urea replacement treatments. The findings of the study revealed that only 25% replacement of ground application of urea can be replaced by 4 splits of foliar sprays of nano-urea to maintain a sustainable yield in tea and to maintain an adequate level of soil nitrogen. However, the final recommendation can only be given after completion of the experiment.

To find out alternative sources of K, an incubation study was conducted in the laboratory with two different organic sources viz. K-ash and K-salt (by-products of sugarcane industry having 21% and 50% water-soluble potassium, respectively. Based on the results

on inorganic K-releasing capacity, it was found that K-salt and K-ash had a positive and significant effect on releasing inorganic potash comparatively for a longer period of time, as compared to MoP. The K-salt was found to be non-significantly superior over K-ash but K-salt and K-ash both were significantly superior over MoP in releasing soil-available potassium and water-soluble potassium for a considerable period of time. K-salt and K-ash were also found to reduce the cost of potassium fertilizer input by 30% and 47%, respectively over MoP. Based on these incubation study results, both K-salt and K-ash could be the potential economic alternative sources of potassium over MoP for tea cultivation. However, these results need to be verified in the fields to arrive at a definitive conclusion.

A Godrej Agrovet-funded trial was conducted in Banarhat Tea Estate to evaluate the effect of silicate fertilizer (Agrisilica) on nitrogen use efficiency and productivity of tea bushes. The study suggested that the availability of nitrogen in soil increased due to the application of Agrisilica at 75 kg/ha in soil. After the first year's trial, the application of Agrisilica and 80% recommended urea and MoP recorded 2.5% higher tea productivity as compared to the application of urea and MoP in the recommended doses.

An externally funded project was undertaken for the enrichment of carbon pool in tea soils and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions by recycling tea-waste. As part of the experiment, a method was developed and standardized for preparing compost from tea-waste within three months. The final compost was characterized based on its chemical and microbiological properties. The effect of tea-waste compost was also tested on young tea plants and on soil chemical properties through a pot trial.

5.1.10 Development of elite planting material:

A bi-clonal combination of an Assam hybrid quality clone (S.3A/3) and a light leaf Assam variety (TRA/Bormajan 19) was found promising over TS 520 (Control). Based on the Tea Taster's evaluation of CTC teas and St. 673 received higher scores for brightness, briskness, strength, and quality, indicating its superiority over TS 520. This new combination will be later considered for release to the industry. Under the project "Development of Improved Planting Materials in Tea using Gamma Irradiation", 750 radiated plants were successfully transferred to the New Botanical Area of Tocklai, out of which, eleven tea planting materials have been marked as diverse in nature on the basis of morphological, physiological and biochemical parameters. Under the ongoing project "Central Sector Scheme for PPVFRA: Establishment of DUS Testing Centre", 260 diverse tea planting materials were overall used for DUS testing and the data was compiled. Besides, the registration of four tea varieties (TV-31, TTRI-1, TTRI-2 and TSS-1), was processed as per norms of PPVFRA. For drought stress management, Salicylic acid @1.0 mM treatment was found to be effective. In order to develop new promising tea planting materials, two long-term trials were initiated in two tea estates (Socklatinga and Bokahola) with the following combinations – St. 811, St. 812, St. 814, St. 815, Dangri, TS-520, TSS-1, St. 673, St. 643, St. 668, TS-491 and Betjan. Under *In-Situ* conservation programme, seven diverse old seed *jats* were collected and a nursery trial was initiated at Socklatinga Tea Estate during 2022-2023.

5.1.11 Advisory Services:

Advisory services have been crucial to the industry's cause. A team of highly motivated Advisory Officers ensure that the technologies developed in the TRA laboratories are seamlessly transferred to the tea gardens. A concerted effort was made in 2022-23 to increase the number of special visits. Seminars, workshops, field demonstrations, and publication of bulletins on topical issues have ensured the dissemination of information to the gardens on a timely basis. Short-term courses on Field Management and Tea Manufacturing were actively participated by the executives of tea estates. Training programmes were also organized for the small tea growers to help the ever-increasing unorganized sector seamlessly integrate their products with those of the mainstream.

5.2.1.3Establishment of a DUS Test Centre for Tea: The research project was funded by PPVFRA, Ministry of Agriculture. All 33 clones planted in the DUS Test Centre were maintained and the free grown trees are used for control hybridization as well as to collect green leaf samples for various biochemical analysis by all the divisions of the Tea Research Institute.

5.2.1.4Controlled Hybridization Programme: New breeding plot established in the DUS Test Centre was utilized for the breeding programme. During the flowering season of January to March, 2022, a total of 5009 flowers were pollinated involving the following parental combinations. UPASI-2 x UPASI-26, UPASI-26 x UPASI-2, UPASI-9 x Cr-6017, CR-6017 x UPASI-9, UPASI-3 x UPASI-2, UPASI-10 x UPASI-2, UPASI-9 x UPASI-2, UPASI-28 x UPASI-2.

5.2.1.5Development of drought tolerant clones through controlled hybridization: F1 progenies developed through controlled hybridization between various parental clones were screened for drought tolerance using physiological and biochemical parameters. A total of 25 F1 populations developed through a cross between UPASI-9 x Yabukita, UPASI-9 x SA-6, and UPASI-9 x TRI-2024 were identified to have drought tolerance.

5.2.1.6Biochemical profile of F1 progenies developed through a cross between CR-6017 x UPASI-8: Tea Genome Sequence had been initiated by the NTRF under Phase-I and Phase-II. Among the partner Institutes of Tea Genome Sequence Project, only in UPASI Tea Research Institute the required number of mapping population is conserved to develop the linkage group. The important objective of UPASI Tea Research Institute in the Tea Genome Sequence Project is to phenotype two mapping populations, one for quality and another for drought tolerance. As per the objective of the Phase-I in order to phenotype for quality traits, F1 progenies developed through the proven quality clone CR-6017 was chosen as the female parent and UPASI-8 was selected as the male parent. In order to study the range of the four important biochemical constituents that are responsible for quality in tea, the F1 progenies developed through controlled hybridization between CR-6017 x UPASI-8 were screened for polyphenols, catechins, amino acids and carotenoids along with caffeine and anthocyanins. The average value of total polyphenols in the male parent UPASI-8 is 26.53 g/100 g which is higher than the values recorded in the female parent CR-6017. The mean value for polyphenol content in the F1 progenies is 24.78 g/100 g, whereas one of the F1 progeny recorded the highest polyphenol content of 34.77 g/100 g. When compared to the polyphenol content quantified in the UPASI released clones, one of the F1 progeny is identified to have the highest polyphenol content.

An average catechin value of 18.03 g/100 g was recorded in the male parent UPASI-8 which is higher than that observed in the female parent CR-6017. Though the mean of F1 progenies is 15.74 g/100 g, one of the F1 progeny recorded the highest catechin content of 20.20. Total amino acids in the female parental clone CR-6017 is 1.09 g/100 g which is slightly higher than that recorded in the male parent UPASI-8. However, one of the F1 progeny recorded the highest value of 2.16 g/100 g.

Carotenoids recorded in both the male and female parent is almost equal with a value of 0.03 mg/g. Similarly, the mean of all the F1 progenies for carotenoids is also 0.03 mg/g, whereas one of the progenies recorded the highest value of 0.07 mg/g. The biochemical profile of the 190 number of F1 progenies developed through the parental combinations CR-6017 x UPASI-8 for the quality related traits will be used to establish the linkage group to identify the regions in the genome controlling a trait.

5.2.1.7Development of new tea clones suitable for Purple Tea: Clonal selection work was carried out in the open-pollinated seedling populations available in the UPASI Experimental Farm as well as in the UPASI Member Estates to select accessions suitable for Purple Tea. Among the 30 accessions screened for anthocyanin content, 4 accessions recorded the

highest anthocyanin content ranging from 0.336 to 0.396 mg/g which is higher than the standard clone TRI-2043.

5.2.1.8Evaluation of fruit crops for their suitability as an inter-crop in tea: As per the MoU between Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) and UPASI, a collaborative research programme has been implemented to evaluate different fruit crops for their suitability as an inter-crop in tea. Saplings of fruit crops such as Mangosteen, Longan, Avacado, Rambutan, Seedless lime, Sweet orange, Lemon, Kumquat, Grapefruit, Blood orange, Clemantine and Mandarin were procured from different nurseries and planted in the UPASI Experimental Farm, Valparai. Various growth parameters such as plant height, stem girth, number of branches, number of leaves and canopy cover are being observed in the evaluation plot. Similar test plots are also established in the UPASI Experimental Farm in Vandiperiyar and in a few Member Estates in Valparai and Munnar.

5.2.1.9Identification of compatible graft partners for recommending new graft combinations: Tea clones TRF-1, TRF-2 and UPASI-28 were grafted on the proven drought tolerant root stock clones UPASI-9, ATK-1 and UPASI-2 and planted in the field to study their field performance.

5.2.1.10Evaluation of herbicides for weed control in tea: In a sponsored study, a field experiment was carried out to evaluate the bio-efficacy of Saflufenacil 70% WG supplied by M/s T

study includes yield and yield components, physiological and biochemical characteristics of green leaves/crop shoots, made tea quality parameters and sensory evaluation/organoleptic evaluation by professional tea tasters. The experiment is under progress.

5.2.2.3Bio-efficacy of BIOZYME TEA+ on yield and yield attributes of tea: A PGR field trial was initiated to document the bio-efficacy of BIOZYME TEA+ on yield and yield attributes of tea. Active ingredients of this product are Seaweed (*Ascophyllum nodosum*) fermented biomass containing alginic acid 0.1% Min & L-Amino acids. There are six treatments with four replications including untreated control and current micronutrient recommendation. The experiment is under progress.

5.2.2.4Impacts of repeated application of pesticides in tea physiology: Physiological and biochemical activities regulate the growth and development of plants. Quality of tea depends on young leaves due to their high accumulation of secondary metabolites such as polyphenols, catechins and polysaccharides. Various pests and diseases affect these young shoots and the application of pesticides are required for management of these biotic stresses. However, continuous application of pesticides influences the plant metabolisms by affecting physiological (photosynthetic pigments and photosynthetic rate) and biochemical (polyphenols, catechins, amino acids etc.) activities in tea. In recent years, we observed deterioration of plant health and defoliation followed by late recovery of crop after continuous application of pesticides in tea plantations. Hence, we have focused on the exploration of plant responses through physiological and biochemical analysis after the continuous application of pesticides in tea plantations. Two major pesticides, Quinalphos and Propargite were selected, which are applied for the management of Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB) and Red Spider Mite (RSM), respectively. The study had four treatments with four replications *viz.* T1 (pesticide applied on uninfected leaves), T2 (pesticide applied on infected leaves), T3 (control with infected leaves), and T4 (control with uninfected leaves). The study results showed that the application of both the pesticides significantly reduced the physiological parameters i.e. photosynthesis pigments and photosynthetic rate. Similarly, application of pesticides significantly reduced the biochemical parameters i.e. polyphenols, catechins and amino acids. Results revealed that the important metabolic activities of tea plants are affected by the continuous pesticide application.

5.2.2.5Bio-efficacy of crop boosters and biofertilizers in tea: An experiment on 'Bio-efficacy of crop boosters and biofertilizers in tea' collaborated with TNAU, Coimbatore. The study is a part of DBT-NER collaborated research project. This experiment is focused on the evaluation of crop boosters and biofertilizers in tea which are developed by TNAU. The experiment is under progress.

5.2.2.6Impact of application of Nano Urea in tea: This study is focused on the replacement of ground application of urea through foliar application of Nano urea for their impact in productivity. This experiment conducted as five treatments with four replications in RBD. The major parameters being analysed in this study are yield, yield attributes, nutrient contents, physiological and biochemical parameters. The experiment is under progress.

5.2.2.7Exploration of the molecular mechanism of disease response and quality in tea through transcriptome analysis: Studies on genomics particularly transcriptomic analysis have been proposed that support the researchers to explore the physiological and biochemical response of a clone at genome levels. Therefore, the response of tea genome has been examined in the present study for disease response and quality through transcriptome analysis. The results revealed that 80,150 upregulated and 75,006 downregulated transcripts were identified for disease response. For quality, there were 76,444 upregulated and 72,389 downregulated transcripts were identified. The analysis on DGE summary of the comparison based on P significant showed that 1,900 and 4,114 genes were indicated to be upregulated and downregulated, respectively for disease response. For

quality, based on P significant showed that 2,128 and 5,010 genes were indicated to be upregulated and downregulated, respectively. Further, the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) enrichment and pathway analyses explored the key genes involved metabolic-related pathways related to disease response and quality.

5.2.3 Chemistry:

5.2.3.1Effect of GAINEXA (*An ortho silicic acid formulation*) in Tea: GAINEXA FC is an ortho silicic acid formulation (2.0% v/v) that contains 0.6% silicon and is fortified with other nutrients like N, K, Zn, B and Mg in small proportions. To find out the efficacy of GAINEXA in tea, a field trial was initiated. From the two years of field experimentation, the application of GAINEXA FC at the rate of 6 ml/litre alone or along with standard micronutrients significantly improved the yield when compared to the standard recommendation. Thus, it is concluded that application of GAINEXA FC (6 ml/litre) alone or combined with a micronutrient mixture can improve the productivity of tea.

5.2.3.2Evaluation of K-Ash (Potash derived from molasses) in Conventional Tea Field: The K-Ash is containing around 20 % of K as water soluble K_2O that was evaluated as an alternative K source in tea. This experiment comprises six treatments including standard recommendation with four replications. The results showed that soil pH was maintained at an ideal level for the treatments incorporating K-Ash, whereas the control (no application) and standard treatments (100% K_2O as MoP) exhibited a decreasing trend. At the end of the second year, the available K content in the soils treated with K-Ash (25% and 50% reduction of MoP and inclusion of compost) was high (>300 ppm) as per the UPASI-TRF standards, similar to MoP treated soils (359 ppm). Further, the available Ca and Mg contents in the K-Ash treatments applied showed increased concentration in comparison with the standard recommendation. From the last two years of field experiment, compost-incorporated along with 25% of K-Ash treatments outperformed all other treatments, the cost of applicati

the experiment that applying *Asaava* @ 600 to 800 ml per hectare along with suggested micro-nutrients and 75% of NPK from the currently suggested ground applications led to an increase in yield of 8% in comparison to the conventional 100% NPK ground application.

5.2.3.6Impact of water retainer in tea: The study's goal is to investigate the effect of water retainer (WR) organic soil conditioner on tea plant drought stress after application to soil, as well as the impact on tea productivity. The findings of the soil moisture analysis indicate that the application of WR had a positive effect on the moisture percentage of the treated soils. The study revealed that WR (20 litre/ha) @ 2 ml/m^2, displayed nearly significant improvement compared to the control (absence of WR). Furthermore, treatment that keep applying WR (15 litre/ha) as three splits every 45 days increased the yield compared to control and lower dose of WR (10 litre/ha).

5.2.3.7Nano Urea related field experiments: In order to determine the efficacy of Nano Urea in tea, a field experiment was initiated. As per the recommendation of IFFCO, 500 ml of Nano Urea can replace one bag (45 kg) of traditional urea, with a dosage of 4 ml per litre. Based on this one-year experimentation, it is tentatively identified to skip up to two splits of ground urea treatment in favour of two rounds of Nano Urea foliar spray. More studies are being conducted to learn more about the presence of Nano Urea in tea.

5.2.3.8Nano Urea absorption study on tea clones: Comparative study was carried out with the foliar spray of urea and Nano urea absorption properties in different tea clones. In this investigation, Nano urea was sprayed on the selected tea clones @ 4 ml/litre of water and the leaves were periodically collected for the assessments of the nutrients and quality indices. Urea (2 kg/ha) was sprayed to a UPASI-9 clone for comparison. Only nitrogen among the nutrients showed significant variations in nitrogen fertiliser application, and total amino acids also had a notable impact.

5.2.3.9L-Theanine studies on tea with application of Nano Urea: In this investigation, two different treatments, conventional urea broadcasting and Nano Urea (4 ml/litre) spraying were used. To observe the N and *L-Theanine* accumulations, samples of the roots, stems, and leaves were taken periodically before and after N application. Urea application to the ground stimulates *L-Theanine* production in roots instantly, and after 10 days, its levels start to drop, showing that *L-Theanine* has been transferred. Because foliar spraying Nano Urea resulted in the formation of *L-Theanine* in tea roots.

5.2.4 Entomology:

5.2.4.1Studies on ovipositional behaviour of Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): An extensive study was done on the ovipositional behaviour of TMB. About 175 tea shoots (three leaves and bud) of UPASI-9 were collected from the UPASI Experimental Farm to study ovipositional preference. From the study, about 54% of eggs were laid on stalks of three leaves and a bud.

5.2.4.2Studies on Sterile Insect Technology (SIT) in Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): As a preliminary study, virgin males were gamma radiated at three different densities *viz.,* 70, 80 and 100 Gy. The radiated virgin males were allowed to pair with virgin female TMB for life table studies. The gamma radiation *viz.,* 70 Gy, 80 Gy and 100 Gy are not sufficient to produce sterility in male TMBs. Further to produce male sterility with a higher density is in progress.

5.2.4.3Studies on matting behaviour and fecundity of Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): A study was started to find out the matting behaviour and fecundity of TMB. From the matting experiments, about 50% of the eggs were viable in single-matted females. There is no difference in the incubation period and total developmental period. Virgin females also lay

unfertilized eggs throughout their life span and none of them was hatched. The study revealed that even a single matting was enough to produce reasonable offspring.

5.2.4.4Studies on the ovicidal activity of certain insecticides on eggs of Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): All Plant Protection Code (PPC) approved insecticides are being evaluated on eggs of TMB under laboratory conditions. The treatments such as Deltamethrin (1 ml/litre), Thiamethoxam (0.25 g/litre) and Quinalphos + Thiamethoxam (1 ml + 0.125 g/litre) achieved about 85%, 55% and 45%, respectively. Thiacloprid and Emamectin Benzoate were failed to achieve notable ovicidal action on the eggs of TMB and nil residual activity also noted on the hatched nymphs from the treated eggs.

5.2.4.5Evaluation of certain Nano Biopesticides against Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): The Nano Biopesticides *viz.* Neem oil (3, 5, and 10 ml/litre), Pungam oil (3, 5, and 10 ml/litre), Artemisia leaf extract (3, 5, and 10 ml/litre) and Adathoda leaf extract (3, 5, and 10 ml/litre) were evaluated against TMB under laboratory conditions. None of the above produced any mortality on TMB but it showed antifeedants activity. Further studies are in progress.

5.2.4.6Field evaluation of Neem soap, Pungam soap and Neem pellet against Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): Neem soap, Pungam soap and Neem pellet formulations were evaluated individually and along with Quinalphos in Stanmore and Sholayar Tea Estates. The study showed that Pungam soap with Quinalphos (10 g + 1 ml) significantly controlled the TMB population and further large-scale studies are in progress.

5.2.4.7Field evaluation of different AI-genix Traps against Tea Mosquito Bug and Shot Hole Borer (SHB): Two AI-genix insect traps such as E-Bionic AllStar and E-Bionic WevStar were evaluated against TMB in UPASI Experimental Farm and Monica Tea Estate. Both the traps failed to attract TMB. Similarly, the BraveHawk Monza Trap was evaluated against the SHB and the trap failed to attract the SHB.

5.2.4.8New record and predatory potential of *Chrysoperla zastrowi sillemi* on Red Spider Mite: The recent predatory survey reported the presence of the green lacewing, *Chrysoperla zastrowi sillemi* in the Anamallais region and further, the collected predator was identified up to the species level using COI gene sequencing (NCBI Accession Number: OP740396). The predatory potential of *Chrysoperla zastrowi sillemi*was evaluated against the different life stages of Red Spider Mites. From the study, the third instar larvae of *Chrysoperla zastrowi sillemi* fed the maximum number of prey stages *viz.* eggs (387), larvae (189), nymph (110) and adult (90.2) than the second and first instar larvae per day. Further studies are in progress.

5.2.4.9Studies on vertical distribution and feeding behaviour of *Oxyopes birmanicus* on Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB): The *Oxyopes birmanicus* distribution was relatively very high on the top level (76%), very low in the middle level (24%), and relatively nil on the bottom level of the tea bushes. The feeding potenti

tea': Salient findings of the projects are – (i) Standardized a technique on mass production of native entomopathogens for the enhanced production microbial biopesticides, (ii) A native proven strain of *B. bassiana* was isolated from the dead cadaver of TMB collected from Anamalais, (iii) *B. subtilis* showed an antagonistic effect against *F. ambrosium* that resulted in reduction of SHB population in in-vivo conditions, and (iv) The entomopathogenic fungi *M. anisopliae* showed higher percentage of mortality against TMB under field conditions.

5.2.5 Pesticide Residue:

5.2.5.1Monitoring of Pesticide Residue in South Indian Tea: Under the survey of monitoring pesticide residue status of South Indian Tea, 47 black tea samples collected from different regions of South India (Coonoor, Meppadi, Munnar, Gudalur and Koppa) were analysed for residues of Propargite, Hexaconazole and Glyphosate. Overall 136 estimations were done.

5.2.5.2Residue Analysis and Degradation Studies of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin in tea by Liquid Chromatography–Mass Spectrometry (LCMS): Study was carried out to determine the dissipation pattern of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin in tea. When NATIVO 75% WG was sprayed at 125 g/ha, the initial deposit of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin at zero day was 15.6 and 10.6 ppm, respectively. The extent of dissipation on the fifth day was 2.3 ppm (85%) for Tebuconazole and 1.7 ppm (84%) for Trifloxystrobin, respectively. The dissipation pattern on seventh day was found to be more than 94% for both molecules. After 14 days, the residues were found to be below the detectable level (< 0.05 ppm) for the recommended dosage of 125 g/ha. The PHI of Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG @ 125 g/ha was fixed as 14 days for South Indian Tea Plantations. The amount of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin residues in black tea collected in various period interval of time was also noted. The dissipation kinetics of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin follows first order kinetics are also calculated. From the study, it can be concluded that the rate of application of combined fungicide at recommended dose was safe from the crop protection point of view.

5.2.5.3Residue and Persistence Study of VAYEGO Care (Tetraniliprole 120 g/litre and Spirotetramat 240 g/litre SC) on tea plants as foliar spray: Field study was conducted to evaluate the residues of Tetraniliprole & its metabolite, and Spirotetramat & its metabolite in tea during January and February, 2022 at Coonoor. VAYEGO Care (Tetraniliprole 120 g/litre and Spirotetramat 240 SC) was sprayed on tea plants @ 375 and 469 ml/ha of formulation as treatments and an untreated control was maintained for comparison. The fresh green leaves, black tea, green tea, soil and tea brew of black tea and green tea were analyzed for the residues of Tetraniliprole & its metabolite, and Spirotetramat & its metabolite. The residues were analyzed at triplicate by a standardized LC-MS/MS method at LoQ of 0.002 mg/kg for Tetraniliprole & its metabolite, and Spirotetramat & its metabolite. Analytical results of fresh green leaves, black tea, green tea, soil and its brew are given below. The residue level of Tetraniliprole and Spirotetramat showed that it is dissipated exponentially from 0 to 28th day by the application of VAYEGO Care (Tetraniliprole 120 g/litre (w/v) and Spirotetramat 240 SC) formulation @ 375 and 469 ml/ha for different matrixes like fresh green leaves, black tea, green tea, black tea brew and green tea brew. There is no residue in soil on 14th day sampling.

5.2.5.4Residue Study of Glyphosate & its metabolite Amino Methyl Phosphonic Acid (AMPA) in tea leaves, black tea (made tea), brew of black tea, green tea, brew of green tea and soil after application of Glyphosate 41% w/w SL (IPA salt) in tea: Field trial was conducted during dry season at Experimental Farm, Coonoor and Erinakdu Tea Estate to determine residue of Glyphosate in black tea, sundried green leaves, and tea brew. Representative leaf and soil samples were collected from 0 day and continued up to 14th day. A portion leaf samples was processed into black tea using CTC miniature unit and the rest of the sample was dried under shade. The samples have been sent to Eurofins Analytical Service, Bangalore for analytical purpose as per the sponsor's request.

5.2.6 Plant Pathology:

5.2.6.1 New report of Fusarium wilt/die-back disease in Tea Plantations of South India: This fungal pathogen infects the tender shoots, young buds and leaf petioles systemically and develops symptoms of necrosis known as ***Fusarium*** wilt/die-back disease. Infected tea twig samples were collected from tea fields to identify the fungal pathogens. Die-back symptoms in the auxiliary buds and petiole areas with the brown-greyish black spot along with necrotic lesions were observed under stereo microscopic observation. The development of ascospores was noticed under the moisture technique. The isolated fungi were identified based on colony morphology and microscopic examination of spore structures with the help of staining techniques. Further confirmation will be fully explored through Koch's postulate technique.

5.2.6.2 Development of Plant-based and Microbial-based Nanoparticles against Blister and Grey Blight Diseases: The botanical extracts were used as the reducing agents for synthesis of nanoparticles. These nanoparticles were tested against grey blight pathogen under *in-vitro* condition through food poisoning technique. The developed treatment of nBWN07 showed a higher rate of inhibition even after the 9th day. The treatments of nCCL03 and nVET02 exerted an average control whereas other treatments failed to control the *P. theae* under *in-vitro* condition. The fermented cultures also used as reducing agents in nanoparticle synthesis with various oxidizing agents. The developed microbial nanoparticles will be studied against the grey blight and blister blight pathogens under *in-vitro* condition.

5.2.6.3 Recommendation on combination of Tebuconazole 50% and Trifloxystrobin 25% WG for management of foliar diseases of tea in South India: Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG was tested against both blister blight and grey blight diseases. It provided a significant control on both foliar diseases at a dose of 125 g/ha. The combination Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin was sprayed in micro-plots to study the PHI. Tea leaves collected from experimental plots were processed at timely intervals for residue studies. The residues of Tebuconazole and Trifloxystrobin have been studied and the safe harvest interval was fixed as 14 days as per the dissipation pattern studies. With the data generated though multi-locational studies, the recommendation draft of Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG was prepared and submitted to the Tea Committee for the inclusion in the Handbook of Tea Culture.

5.2.6.4 Biological properties of Chitosan oligosaccharide 20% for integrated plant health management in tea: Field experiment was conducted for evaluation of Chitosan Oligosaccharide COS 20% (M/s. ISF Chitin & Marine Products LLP, Kochi) for management of blister blight and grey blight diseases. Treatments with different dosage (250 to 2500 ml/ha were studied along with COC as standard. Combination of recommended fungicide and alternate treatments of COS 20% also were studied. Results proved that at lower dose (1 litre/ha) effective control of blister blight and grey blight diseases were achieved, whereas all the tested dosage expressed a control of >40% when compared to untreated control. Superior control of grey blight/die-back disease was observed in combined treatment of Chitosan Oligosaccharide 20% @ 1 litre/ha along with COC @ 210 g/ha. From the study, it is confirmed that COS 20% expresses the bio-stimulant effect as well as wound healing property in tea shoots by reducing the incidences of secondary wound pathogens (die-back). Multi-locational field experiment showed that higher yield was recorded in treatment of alternate schedule with COS 20%. Based on the field experiments, a schedule was

[redacted]

5.2.6.5Field Experiments for alternative fungicides for tea disease management: Field experiment was initiated at UPASI Experimental Farm to deliver the alternate effective fungicide schedule against both blister blight and grey blight diseases. The treatment details *viz.* BASF coded products (BAS 750 02F @ 200 ml/ha, BAS 75101F @ 250 ml/ha, and BAS 71700F @ 600 ml/ha), Zymo Thymox @ 750 ml/ha, Zymo Bioguard @ 750 g/ha, Tebuconazole 38.39% SC (Buonos) @ 250 ml, Avtar @ 600 g + COC @ 210 g/ha, and Avtar alone @ 600 g/ha along with untreated control. The result of the study confirmed that all the selected BASF coded products with respective dosage effectively controlled the blister blight disease at a rate of more than 70%. Among the treatments, BAS 750 02F @ 200 ml/ha provided the highest percentage of control at 89% followed by BAS 75101F @ 250 ml/ha and BAS 71700F @ 600 ml/ha.

5.2.6.6Integrated Plant Health Management (IPMH): Field experiment was conducted under IPMH by incorporating potential microorganisms for the management of grey blight/die-back disease. Bioefficacy data were generated in 3 locations. Treatment of *P. fluorescens* exerted the greater bioefficacy of 38% against *P. theae* followed by the treatments of *T. viride* and *B. amyloliquefaciens* with control of 37% and 33%, respectively over untreated control. Meanwhile, yield data was recorded during the study period of disease seasons. Higher yield was recorded in treatment of *P. fluorescens* with a total yield of 920.7 ton/ha with an increase of 12.7% over untreated plots. This proves the antifungal property as well as the growth promotion ability of *P. fluorescens* making it a potential microorganism in tea cultivation.

5.2.6.7Spraying of NATIVO 75% WG by using Drone Sprayer: Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG (Nativo 75% WG). Experimental plot was laid out for conducting the phytotoxicity studies for application of NATIVO through drone. Experiment was carried out with two dosages (125g/ha and 250g/ha water volume of 20 litre/ha) with three replications. The speed, height and discharge volume of Drone was standardized and spray was initiated. Field was observed periodically for presence of phytotoxicity symptoms. Results revealed that none of the treatments showed any phytotoxic effects like yellowing, stunting, necrosis, epinasty and hyponasty. Thus, the application of Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG through Drone did not cause phytotoxicity effect on tea crop and it is recommended to use Drone for spraying Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG on tea plant subject to approvals from regulatory authorities.

5.2.6.8Studies on agrochemical degrading microbes and bioremediation in tea ecosystem: Microbial biodiversity of South Indian Tea Plantations was documented and the impact of agrochemical usage was studied in order to improve the soil health in tea ecosystem. Bio-D formulation was developed with potential agrochemical degrading microbes isolated and identified from South Indian Tea Ecosystem through various qualitative and quantitative methods. During the study period, the biodegrading capability of Propargite exerted that the Bio-D incorporated with the tea soil delivers a degradation of 65% and 83% for the period of 7^{th} and 14^{th} day, respectively when compared to control. Regarding the herbicide Glyphosate, 62% and 67% on 7^{th} and 14^{th} day were recorded through HPLC quantitative method. When compared with pesticide and herbicide, the degradation activity of Bio-D for fungicide is comparatively low with a rate of 44% of degradation. Based on the green house condition, a marginal increase in the macro and micro-nutrients was observed and also improved the physio-chemical properties. Tea waste degraded with the selected agrochemical degrading microbes were used as an alternative cost-effective nutrient medium for mass culturing of bioconsortium (Bio-D) for the use in tea plantations to improve the physio-chemical properties of tea soil. Under Lab-to-Land Programme, about 5,000 kg of mother cultures including agrochemical degrading microbes were prepared and dispatched to Member Estates for mass production and large-scale field applications. After completion of multi-location field experiments, potential biodegrading microbes will be recommended to Tea Industry.

5.2.7 Tea Technology:

5.2.7.1Participation in Inter-Laboratory Comparison (ILC) Test for method of 'Determination of Iron Filings in Tea': An ILC Programme for determination of iron filings in tea was conducted by FSSAI. Seven Tea Testing Laboratories including UPASI participated. Phase-I was conducted in 2021 and 48 estimations were carried out for four tea samples (CTC Leaf, CTC Dust, Orthodox, and Green Tea) in replicate manner. Phase-II was conducted in 2022 and 20 estimations were carried out for four tea samples.

5.2.7.2Synthesis of silver nano particles using of green tea extract as a catalyst: Green tea is known for its high content of various phytochemical constituents that are involved in the reduction of metallic ions into nanoparticles. A study was carried out for the synthesis of silver nano particles using of green tea extract. Green tea extract added with silver nitrate, heated and stirred using magnetic stirrer. Finally, crude silver nano particles were obtained as reddish-brown colour solution, which had washed with ethanol and dried. The UV-VIS, XRD and SEM analysis of the dried samples were confirmed the nano particle synthesis. This method is an eco-friendly, low cost and capable of producing silver nano particles at room temperature.

5.2.7.3Study on addition of herbals in green tea: Green tea has gain recognition for its health benefits due the presence of antioxidants and other biochemical constituents. People have gained knowledge about healthy living by consuming the medicinal herbs, which incorporated in their daily life. The scope of this project is to blend medicinal herbs with green tea, which can be incorporated into everyday life to provide additional health benefits. The medicinal herbs like *Senna articulata*, *Phyllanthus niruri* and *Tinospora cordifolia* were blended with green tea in different ratios. The results showed that green tea blended with 3% of *Senna articulata* and 3% of *Phyllanthus niruri* has significant increase in their antioxidant and biochemical constituents. No changes were observed by addition of *Tinospora*.

5.2.7.4Survey on Quality Profile of South Indian Tea: Under the survey programme, tea samples from different agro-climatic regions of South India were collected at monthly interval and analysed for their quality parameters such as TF, TR, HPS and TLC. A total of 17 samples consisting of 13 CTC black tea samples and 4 orthodox manufactured samples from Munnar, Nilgiris, Gudalur and Mappadi regions. In CTC grade samples, TF content varied from 0.36% to 0.81% and was higher in Munnar region samples. TR content varied from 5.52 to 9.06 and was higher in Munnar region. HPS and TLC contents varied from 6.18 to 10.19 and 1.94 and 3.30, respectively. HPS and TLC contents were higher from Gudalur region. In orthodox tea, TF content varied from 0.34 to 0.53% and TR content 5.11 to 8.57%. HPS content was 5.14 to 8.07 % and TLC content 1.70 to 2.77. All the quality constituents of orthodox black tea were higher in Nilgiris region except HPS and TLC contents which are higher in Wayanad region.

5.2.7.5Impact of addition of dual flavours in Orthodox Black Tea: A study was carried out to find out the changes in biochemical and liquor parameters when addition of flavours like apple, lemon grass, strawberry and rose in orthodox black tea. Orthodox black tea was blended with different concentration of the above flavours. The results of biochemical and quality parameters showed that addition of different concentration of flavours like apple, cardamom, strawberry and rose, either single flavour or combined flavors, enhanced the polyphenol and reducing sugar contents. Other parameters like catechin and antioxidant properties were not changed.

5.2.7.6Addition of herbals in Orthodox Black Tea: A study was carried out to find out the changes of biochemical and liquor parameters when additions of herbal like *Stevia rebaudiana*. Orthodox black tea was blended with different concentration of *Stevia*

caffeine and iron fillings conducted by Phyto-Pharma Testing Lab, Coimbatore and the Z-score values were well within the limits.

Besides NABL-Accreditation, laboratory participated in ILC Programme for soil and compost conducted by National Agro Foundation, Chennai, Ashwamedh Engineers & Consultants, Nasik and Dibrugarth University, Assam and all the Z score values were well within the limits.

5.2.8.2At Gudalur: A Monthly Advisory Note containing cultural practices to be undertaken were circulated among the members on 1st or 2nd of every month. Comparative statement on crop production and productivity details were circulated to all Member Estate on or before 5th of every month. During the period, a total of 10 tea samples, CTC and Orthodox type of manufacturing were collected from Member Estates of Nilgiri-Wynaad region for survey on pesticide residue in tea and samples were forwarded to UPASI-TRF RC, Coonoor.

Field experiments on forecasting of blister blight incidence and mite infestation are continue in agro-climatic zones of Nilgiri-Wayanad. Purple tea selection of bushes, propagation and plants raised in nursery were handed over to UPASI-TRF RC, Coonoor for planting. Experiment on down pruning and infilling initiated in 2021 at Rousdonmullai Tea Estate is in progress. Assessment on blister blight disease free clone in comparison with ATK clone conducted at Carolyn Tea Estate indicated that there is no blister free clone. Only percentage of infection is less.

5.2.8.3At Koppa: Regular visits were undertaken in relation with different advisory services and field experiments to the Member Estates. Analysis of soil samples for pH, EC and texture were carried out. Root specimens were analysed for root diseases and suitable recommendations were given to the Member Estates.

5.2.8.4At Meppadi: Dolomite application recommendation and fertilizer schedule were prepared for Member Estates. Eight numbers of made tea samples were collected from members of the district for pesticide residue survey analysis at monthly interval. Assessment of blister blight disease in two zones (north and south) and red spider mite population in south zone was carried out. Experiment on evaluation of Pink-Pigmented Facultative Methylotrophs (PPFM) and bio fertilisers against drought were continued. A pilot scale study on Glycel 41% SL + 30 g of boric acid in 13 litres of water was sprayed in *Borreria sp* weeds infected small area and achieved good control. Compatibility of Nano urea with other fertilisers was checked and sprayed on bushes. No phytotoxicity symptom was observed.

5.2.8.5At Munnar: Regular advisory services, field experiments, lining and pest & disease assessment visits were carried out to Member Estates in the High Range. In-house and field training programmes were conducted on various agri-operations of tea culture to the Member Estates. Field experiments are being executed as per the protocol of UPASI-Tea Research Institute, Valparai. Experiments are study on leaf expansion time of western and low elevation estates, clonal selections, evaluation of different farming systems in tea, assessment of blister blight infection and efficacy of pheromone trap against Tea Mosquito Bug (TMB).

5.2.8.6At Vandiperiyar: Field experiments conducted at Member Estate are – (i) Experiment on the performance of TRF-1, (ii) Clonal selection programme, (iii) Field experiments on application of Nano urea, (iv) IPHM of blister blight and grey blight diseases, (v) Short-term trail on efficiency of potassium schoenite (an alternative to MoP), (vi) Assessment of TMB and RSM infestation and blister blight infection in different agro-climatic zones of Central Travancore region. 8,950 kg green leaf was harvested from Experimental Farm (0.72 ha). Saplings of Rambutan, Avocado, Mangosteen, Longan and some other citrus verities were planted.

5.2.9 Analytical Services:

5.2.9.1A number of 5,598 soil samples, 701 fertilizers/agrochemicals samples, 206 tea samples, 278 organic manure samples, 43 lime-sulphur, and 83 dolomite samples were analysed.

5.2.9.2For iron filings, 48 tea samples were analysed.

5.2.9.3For eel worm, 63 samples were analysed.

5.2.9.4For made tea quality parameters, 449 tea samples were analysed.

5.2.9.5For green leaf quality, 132 samples were analysed.

5.2.9.6For pesticide residues, 11 tea samples and for heavy metals, 92 samples were analysed.

5.2.9.7For disease identification, 280 samples, for made tea microbes, 26 samples, for soil microbes, 48 samples, and for starch content 2,828 samples were analysed.

5.2.9.8For SHB incidence, 6259 samples were analysed.

5.2.9.9For quality of bioformulation, 24 samples were analysed.

5.3 Darjeeling Tea Research & Development Centre (DTRDC), Kurseong & its Quality Control Laboratory (QCL), Siliguri:

5.3.1'Development of microbial inoculants to improve growth and productivity of Darjeeling and Assam Tea': As the ultimate aim of this work is to create effective bio-inoculants for tea growing region, the indigenous microbes were isolated from different Tea Estates. Prominent microbes were screened out for PGPR study. Exploitation and production of indigenous bio-ino

5.3.6QCL successfully conducted ILC Programme with other food/tea testing labs for continuous improvement of its analytical capabilities. It also qualified in the annual assessment by NABL for continuation of its accreditation (valid up to November 06, 2023).

5.3.7To review and discuss the issues related to application of pesticides and their residues, the 15th Meeting of the Technical Group on Plant Protection Code (PPC) was organized on June 08, 2022 and Fourteenth Version of PPC (July, 2022) was released. The 16th Meeting was also organized on March 17, 2023.

****

CHAPTER-6

TEA PROMOTION

Introduction:

One of the main functions of the Promotion Directorate of Tea Board is to undertake promotional activities with an aim to making India the leading supplier of quality teas globally. Promotional efforts are oriented towards increasing awareness of the many varieties and categories of Indian tea with an objective to increasing market share of Indian teas in the targeted markets and increasing domestic consumption. India accounts for about 11% of the world's total tea exports and ranks 4th after Kenya, China and Sri Lanka. India is the largest producer and consumer of black teas in the world. Total exports registered during the financial year 2022-23 was 228.40 M.Kgs.

Focused attention was given to selected countries, where there is higher potential for increasing export. Indian exporters were also provided with all possible support to encourage exports of Indian varieties in the overseas countries.

Overview of Tea exports from India during 2022-23

India registered tea export of 228.40 million kg valued at Rs. 6385.81 Crores during 2022-23 as compared to 200.79 million kg valued at Rs. 5415.78 crores during 2021-22.

2022-23					2021-22				
Qty (M.kg)	Value (Rs. Crs)	Value in (M.USD)	Unit Price (Rs/Kg)	Unit Price ($/Kg)	Qty (M.kg)	Value (Rs. Crs)	Value in (M.USD)	Unit Price (Rs/Kg)	Unit Price ($/Kg)
228.40	**6385.81**	**793.78**	**279.59**	**3.48**	**200.79**	**5415.78**	**726.82**	**269.72**	**3.62**

The major destination wise export scenario is placed at Annexure-I.

During 2022-23 tea exports improved in both quantity and value realization. The quantity increased by 13.75% while value realization in crores improved by 17.91% as compared to 2021-22.

Tea exports improvement during 2022-23 is seen in countries viz., UAE by 19.24 M. Kgs, Russian Federation by 10.61 M. Kgs, Kazakhstan by 6.15 M.Kgs, Egypt (ARE) by 2.18 M.Kgs, Saudi Arabia by 1.47 M. Kgs and United Kingdom by 1.27 M. Kgs.

Overview of Promotional activities during 2022 - 23

Tea Board carried out various promotional activities by organizing virtual B2B meetings as well as virtual Buyer-Seller Meets with the tea importers of export destinations such as Syria, China, Malaysia, Iraq, Saudi Arabia etc in association with the respective Embassies/Missions/Consulates in those countries. The Board also maintained liaison work with the tea trade, attended to trade enquiries, addressed various issues related to quality and safety regulations for the key markets, especially redressing the MRL issues for the EU countries, undertook various trade facilitation measures. It has kept the tea trade informed about developments related to exports as well as dissemination of market and trade information through its overseas office located in Moscow and the Head Office in Kolkata to enhance demand for Indian tea and increase market shares in the key markets of Russia, Kazakhstan, Iran, USA, Germany, Japan, UAE, Poland, Saudi Arab etc. Trade facilitations and constant liaison with the Ministry and the Indian Missions were undertaken with a view to reducing/eliminating barriers to exporting as well as increasing export competitiveness. Enhancing the RoDTEP Reward rates by DGFT for different HS Codes of "Tea" through a Gazette Notification dated 09/01/23 till 30/09/23 was the outcome of the logical and factual submission from Tea Board India to the Ministry in July'22 based on the assessment inputs received from the Industry.

Other activities included undertaking various publicity functions for maintaining the image of India Tea and in influencing public opinion in a positive manner toward Tea Board India. Sustained campaign through social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Koo also proved to be very effective in increasing awareness about different varieties of Indian teas amongst the consumers (domestic as well as international).

Overseas Promotion

Promotional activities undertaken through the overseas office in Moscow

Countries under the jurisdiction of Moscow Office
The Tea Board Moscow office looks after the promotion of India tea in the CIS countries such as Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Georgia, Armenia, Moldova and the Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia & Lithuania

Brief market view for the major countries in the CIS Region

Country	**Market size M. kg**	**PCC (Kgp.a.)**
Russia	136	0.96
Kazakhstan	25	1.50
Ukraine	16	0.89

The total tea market size in the CIS region was 224 million kg in 2022 and the above countries mainly consuming black teas collectively account for 79% the import market for tea in that region. The Russian Federation is the largest tea market in the CIS, followed by Kazakhstan. Russia imported 136 m. kg of tea from over 20 countries in 2022. Indian tea commands around 30% i.e. 41 m. kg of the Russian import of 136 m. kg during 2022 in comparison to the closest competitor Sri Lanka's 18% (24 m. kg). Russia and Kazakhstan have been targeted as one of the two strategically important markets for increased exports.

During the period under report, Tea Board of India's participation was organized for the following events through its Moscow Office

No.	Date	Event	Description
1	October 22-23, 2022	Veg-Life Exhibition	**The TBI, Moscow office took part in the VEG-LIFE, 13th Federal Exhibition of vegetarian and healthy lifestyle. VEG-LIFE is held 2 times a year, hosting more than 140 healthy lifestyle companies.** **Over 3000 people attended the event for 2 days.**
2	January 13-15, 2023	Delhi Bazaar	**The TBI, Moscow office took part in the monthly Indian fair "Delhi Bazaar".** **"Delhi Bazaar" is a monthly Indian fair in the center of Moscow, a market of Indian goods with a food court of Indian restaurants, lectures and workshops for fans of Indian culture and occasional visitors.** The guests of the Indian fair tasted the 5 varieties of Indian loose tea promoted by the TBI, Moscow, namely Darjeeling, Sikkim, Nilgiri, Assam Orthodox and Assam CTC. **Over 3000 people attended the event.**
3	March 16-18, 2023	MITT- tourism exhibition	A major tourism exhibition MITT was organized in Moscow, Russia, where the Government of India showcased Uttar Pradesh as a tourist destination. To utilize the synergy of the image of India as a tourist destination and the image of Indian tea as its major commodity of export to Russia, the TBI Moscow office organized a tea tasting function at Uttar Pradesh stall. The event was attended by more than 14830 visitors and more than 700 exhibitors. The Embassy's stall was always full of visitors, eagerly waiting to taste the freshly brewed authentic Indian tea. It's refreshing taste was highly praised by the public.

Some of the salient events which were organized during the financial year 2022-23 are enumerated below:

April 2022

69th Foundation Day of Tea Board India celebrated on 1st April, 2022

The 69th Foundation Day of Tea Board India was celebrated in a Hybrid Mode (Physical-cum-Virtual)

Hon'ble Minister said that tea is an integral part of India and the country should be made the "tea hub of the world". He said production and productivity of the commodity have increased, while the area under cultivation of tea has doubled. "There has been a massive transformation of the sector but this should not make us complacent from doing even better. We need to improve more in terms of quality," he said. Shri Piyush Goyal further said that new export destinations will have to be explored, and there is also a need to improve the aroma and taste of the commodity.

Participation of Tea Board India at "Eat Right Mela" held on 9th April, 2022 at Agartala

Tea Board India participated at "Eat Right Mela" organised by the Food Safety & Standards Authority, Directorate of Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine, Government of Tripura, at Agartala on 9th April 2022.

Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, visited the Tea Board India Stall along with Shri Santosh Saha, Chairman, Tripura Tea Development Corporation Limited. Different types of teas were displayed at the Tea Board stall in order to create public awareness about various types of tea like CTC teas, Orthodox teas, Green teas etc. Various brands of Tripura Tea along with produce of small tea growers were also displayed for creating public awareness. Awareness was also created about various health benefits of Tea.

Participation of Tea Board India at 7th Indian Industrial Fair, UDYAM'2022 at Guwahati from 22-25 April, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 7th Indian Industrial Fair, UDYAM'2022 held at Guwahati from 22-25 April, 2022. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Narayan Rane, Hon'ble Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, in presence of Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, and Shri Chandra Mohan Patowary, Minister of Industries, Commerce & Entrepreneurship, Government of Assam. Shri SomPrakash, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India also graced the occasion on 25th April'2022.

Participation of Tea Board India at two-days Waterway Conclave 2022 organised at Dibrugarh, Assam from 11-12 April, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the two-day Waterways Conclave 2022 organised at Dibrugarh, Assam from 11-12 April, 2022. The conclave was inaugurated by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Port, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India. Tea Board India exhibited various categories of teas including specialty teas in the stall. Information on tea culture, promotion and categories of various teas was also shared with the visitors.

Participation of Tea Board India at the 36thAahar International Food & Hospitality Fair held at New Delhi from 26-30 April, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 36thAahar International Food & Hospitality Fair held at New Delhi from 26-30 April, 2022. Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Minister of Textiles, Government of India inaugurated the fair. The 36thedition took place at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from April 26, 2022 to April 30, 2022. AAHAR is Asia's is one of the most well-known brands in Food & Hospitality. This show is now a well-known destination for global vendors as well as sourcing professionals. More than a thousand exhibitors, participated in the show along with overseas participation of 374 overseas exhibitors from 27 countries.

The Tea Board India stall provided good visibility to the India Tea branding. The number of trade enquiries was very encouraging. Maximum trade enquiries were for Assam Tea followed by Darjeeling Tea. Tea sampling was done which attracted huge number of visitors. The information on regulatory compliances how to obtain various tea licenses was imparted to visitors.

May 2022

Tea Board India's participation at North East Food Show, Shillong, Meghalaya, 5-7 May, 2022

Tea Board India participated at North East Food Show held at Shillong, Meghalaya from 5-7 May, 2022. Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya and Shri Prem Singh Tamang, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim visited Tea Board India's stall at North East Food Show.

Tea Board India's participation at 6th Government Development & Polices Exhibition, Bhopal, 6-8 May, 2022

Tea Board India participated at 6th Government Development & Polices Exhibition held at Bhopal from 6-8 May, 2022. Tea sampling was organised for the visitors of the exhibition. The number of trade enquiries was very encouraging. Maximum trade enquiries were for Assam tea followed by Darjeeling Tea. More than 200 exhibitors, including Coffee Board, Coir Board, APEDA participated in the show.

Stakeholders' Meeting regarding Project on Formulation of Packaging Standards held at Coimbatore on 18th May, 2022

Tea Board India organised a Stakeholders' Meeting for disseminating the findings of the "Project on Formulation of Packaging Standards (Bulk and Consumer) "executed by Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) at Coimbatore on 18th May, 2022. The report has been well-accepted by the stakeholders and their views & feedback were obtained in the process. Shri Anup Kumar Mukherjee, FA & CAO, Shri Joydip Biswas, Deputy Director, Tea Promotion, Shri Falguni Bannerjee, Deputy Director, Tea Development and other senior Tea Board officers were present.

Third International Tea Day celebrated by Tea Board India on 21st May, 2022

Tea Board India celebrated the 3rd International Tea Day on 21st May, 2022 with much fervor and enthusiasm. A lot of activities were organised throughout the length and breadth of the country to observe this day.

Tea Board India in collaboration with Indian Tea Association organized a Seminar (in hybrid mode) to commemorate the 3rd International Tea Day on 21st May, 2022. The inaugural session was graced by the presence of Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India through the virtual medium. Other notable dignitaries who participated in the inaugural session were Dr. K.N. Raghavan, Executive Director, Rubber Board and Chairman, MPEDA as well as former Chairman and Dy Chairman, Tea Board India, Mr. Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India, Ms. Nayantara Pal Choudhuri, Chairperson ITA and other dignitaries of Tea Board India and Indian Tea Association. Other important dignitaries who added value to this seminar were Dr Krishna Gupta IAS, Principal Secretary, Deptt. of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development, Govt of West Bengal, Mr. Atul Asthana, MD Goodricke Group, Dr. Shatadru Chattopadhyay, MD, Solidaridad Asia who were moderators for different sessions of the seminar and Smt. Anurita Phukan Yadav, Executive Director, NEZO and Director Tea Promotion I/C, Tea Board India

Smt. Anupriya Patel, the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry extended her good wishes to the industry on the occasion of International Tea Day. She stated that this day is an occasion to promote and foster collective action towards sustainable production of tea recognizing that globally the trend is moving towards better quality and organic teas. She further stressed on tea being made attractive as a beverage to the younger generation who would drive consumption in the future. She emphasised on the need to make India a leading supplier of quality tea in the global market.

Advertisements through newspapers, promotions through radio, SMS (on mobile phones), tea sampling through stalls, displays, contests on social media platforms - 'The India Tea Song competition' and 'My special cup of India Tea contest' were the other activities which were done to mark the occasion and to increase awareness about the wonderful beverage – Tea.

Since quality is the prime parameter which upholds the name of India Tea in the global market, a special tea plucking (limited edition) activity was also organised by Tea Board India in various tea gardens to observe this occasion. A special auction of these teas will be organised in the auction centres in June 2022.

Various promotional activities to observe this day has created a buzz and the significance of International Tea day towards promoting the beverage 'TEA' has been well-established.

June 2022

Tea Board India's participation at Agro + Food & Beverage Pro World Expo'22, Mumbai, 9-11 June, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the Agro + Food & Beverage Pro World Expo'22 held in Mumbai from 9-11 June, 2022. The Expo was inaugurated by Shri Subhash Desai, Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Maharashtra. The Guest of Honour was Shri Narayan Prasad, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Government of Bihar. Shri Randeer Singh, Director, Niti Aayog, Government of India, inaugurated the conference at the exhibition. Among the foreign dignitaries who attended included His Excellency Abdalla Omar Bashir Elhusain, Ambassador of Sudan, Ms. Nomusa Mugwambi, Trade Counsellor of Zimbabwe, Ms. Elia Sevutia from the High Commission of Fiji and many other overseas visitors. There were country pavilions at the exhibition from these countries. Shri Narayan P ent of Bihar visited the Tea Board India stall and tea caddies of the different Indian tea varieties were presented to him. Pamphlets, brochures and publicity literatures on Indian teas were displayed at the Tea Board India stall.

Buyer-Seller Meet in Hybrid Mode (Physical cum Virtual) organised by Embassy of India, Damascus, Syria in association with Tea Board India on 13th June, 2022

A Business-to-Business Meet for exploring export potential of Indian Teas to Syria was organised on June 13, 2022 in a hybrid mode (physical cum virtual) by Embassy of India, Damascus, Syria in association with Tea Board India where Indian tea exporters and Syrian importers interacted regarding export of Indian tea to Syria.

Shri Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India and Shri Satender Kumar Yadav, Charge d' Affaires, Embassy of India, Syria graced the occasion. Smt. Arunita Phukan, Executive Director, North East Zonal Office and Director Tea Promotion (I/C) and other senior Tea Board officials were also present at the meeting.

The interactions proved to be very fruitful. Syrian importers enquired about all the participating exporters' communication details post-event, which were provided.

Tea Board India's participation at Food & Technology Expo, New Delhi, 17-19 June, 2022

Tea Board India participated at Food & Technology Expo held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 17-19 June, 2022. Tea sampling and tasting of the different varieties of Indian teas was organised for the visitors at the Tea Board India stall. Informative and attractive posters on Indian teas as well as the specialty tea logos were displayed. Among the visitors of the exhibition were farmers from neighbouring states, school children and people from all walks of life who savoured the Indian teas sampled at the Tea Board India stall and appreciated its taste and flavour.

International Day of Yoga celebrations held on 21st June, 2022

International Day of Yoga was observed at the Head Office, Kolkata as well as the different Zonal and Regional Offices of Tea Board India by organizing Yoga sessions on 21st June, 2022. Yoga instructors were called to guide the participants at these programmes.

Apart from the Head Office and the different Zonal and Regional Offices, Tea Board India also participated at International Day of Yoga celebrations held at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai on 21st June, 2022. Different varieties of Indian teas were displayed and sampled at the event. Indian tea caddies were presented to ShriBhagat Singh Koshyari, Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra. Foreign diplomats, expatriates, foreign students and other distinguished invitees attended the event and enjoyed the Indian teas sampled by Tea Board India. M/s. Girnar Food & Beverages Pvt. Ltd. also participated in the event along with Tea Board India and served their teas to the guests present at the occasion.

Stakeholders' consultation meetings on "Formulation of Packaging Standards" organised by Tea Board India at Dibrugarh, Assam on 25th June, 2022 and Kolkata on 29th June, 2022

Tea Board India organised a stakeholders' consultation meeting on "Formulation of Packaging Standards" in collaboration with Indian Institute Packaging (IIP) on 25th June, 2022 at Dibrugarh, Assam, where Shri Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Dy. Chairman, Smt. Arunita Phukan Yadav, Executive Director, North East Zonal Office and Director Tea Promotion (I/C) and other senior Tea Board officers were present. A similar meeting was also organised at the Tea Board Head Office, Kolkata on 29th June, 2022 which was well attended by a number of exporters as well as representatives of Tea Associations.

The objectives of the aforesaid meetings were to share the important findings of the project amongst the stakeholders for eventual adherence in course of time.

July 2022

Indian Tea Promotional event organised during the Annual International Tea Festival at "Slavianski Bazaar", Vitebsk, Belarus on 17th July, 2022

Embassy of India in Minsk with the support of Tea Board India organised a Tea Exhibition at Slavianski Bazar, the largest cultural forum in the Republic of Belarus on 17th July, 2022.

Embassy set up an Indian Tea Pavilion at the central Pushkin Square, located across an open stage. The tea exhibition was timed to coincide with the performance of an ICCR performing troupe. The two events complemented each other. Announcements were made on the stage to invite people to visit the Indian Tea Pavilion.

Standees detailing types of Indian teas being served and general information about Indian teas was displayed. In addition to this, fliers about tea in Russian language provided by Tea Board India were printed and distributed. There were many inquiries from general public about the Indian teas being served.

Buyer-Seller Meet in Hybrid Mode (Physical cum Virtual) organised between Indian and tea stakeholders from China on 15th July 2022

A Buyer-Seller Meet in Hybrid Mode (Physical cum Virtual) organised between Indian and Chinese tea stakeholders on 15th July 2022 in association with Embassy of India, Beijing. Ms. Yu Lu, Vice President, China Chamber of Commerce of Import & Export of Foodstuffs, gave a presentation on the Black Tea Market Scenario in China and Regulations for Export of Tea to China. Ms. Sun Gonghe, Director, New Tea Committee, China Chain-Store & Franchise Association, gave a presentation on Market Trends on Ready to Drink Tea and Tea Catering Industries and Opportunities for Indian Teas. Interactions were held between Chinese Importers/Stakeholders/Council and Indian Tea exporters.

Interaction in Hybrid Mode (Physical cum Virtual) organised by Embassy of India, Baku, Azerbaijan in association with Tea Board India on 7th July, 2022

An Interaction in Hybrid Mode (Physical cum Virtual) was organised by Embassy of India, Baku, Azerbaijan in association with Tea Board India on 7th July, 2022. Azerbaijani importers of tea interacted with Indian exporters during the meeting. The queries of the Azerbaijani importers were addressed during the meeting and there was mutual exchange of contact details to facilitate the trade and business relations.

Workshop on Foreign Trade Data Pertaining to Tea Exports and Imports organised by Tea Board India in collaboration with DGCIS on 6th July, 2022

A Workshop on Foreign Trade Data Pertaining to Tea Exports and Imports organised by Tea Board India in collaboration with DGCIS at the Tea Board Head Office, Kolkata on 6th July, 2022 where stakeholders and exporters of Indian tea were invited. Issues such as State of Origin/District of Origin, inappropriate HS Code reporting, wrong reporting of IEC etc. were discussed at the meeting. The stakeholders were apprised on how to report correct and appropriate 8-digit ITCHS codes in line with reported description, reporting quantity in standard unit, gross weight consistent considering reported quantity etc. The DGCIS officials also elaborated on the initiatives taken in 2021-22 and the way forward for 2022-23.

District Level Stakeholders' Consultation for Darjeeling (Districts as Export Hubs) organised by DGFT in association with Tea Board India on 14th July 2022

A District Level Stakeholders' Consultation for Darjeeling (Districts as Export Hubs) was organised by DGFT in association with Tea Board India at Tea Board Head Office, Kolkata on 14th July, 2022. Speaking at the meeting, Shri Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India stated that the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is to convert each district into an export hub and to ensure that exports from these identified districts see substantial increase in the coming months. Ms. Dona Ghosh, Joint Director General of Foreign Trade said that Stakeholders' consultations on a bigger scale is being envisaged as a next step where contribution of the districts will be prominent. She asked the stakeholders present to deliberate on the action plans prepared in the districts, and sought suggestions and inputs from the stakeholders to finalise the list of interventions that can be worked upon immediately to support export growth from the districts. Dr. Abhay Sinha, Director General, Service Export Promotion Council (SEPC) also encouraged the stakeholders to seek the help of SEPC with regard to promotion of their products in overseas markets.

August 2022

Tea Board India's participation at 9th Indian National Exhibition cum Fair, Kolkata, 4-8 August, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 9th Indian National Exhibition cum Fair held at Kolkata from 4-8 August, 2022, organised by the Bengal Human Resource Development Foundation. The Tea Board India stall was well-decorated with colourful posters and banners imparting information about the different varieties of Indian teas. Publicity brochures and literatures, such as leaflets, pamphlets, recipe booklets on Indian teas etc. were also displayed and distributed amongst the visitors of the exhibition. Tea sampling of the different varieties of Indian teas was also undertaken at the Tea Board India stall, which proved to be extremely popular, as a huge number of visitors thronged the stall at all times of the day to experience the genuine taste, flavour and aroma of the specialty Indian teas. A 'Vendor Development Programme' was organised by the MSME Development & Facilitation Office, Ministry of Medium Enterprises, Government of India at the venue of the exhibition on 7-8 August, 2022.

"Har Ghar Tiranga" initiatives undertaken on the occasion of completion of 75 years of Indian Independence – Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

As part of "Har Ghar Tiranga" initiatives to mark the completion of 75 years of Indian Independence – Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, several activities were undertaken, such as Making Social Media designs

and promoting these initiatives on Tea Board India's Facebook, Twitter and Koo handles, making a video slider chronicling the Tricolour's history and posting it on Tea Board India's Facebook, Twitter and Koo handles, Making a video slider depicting the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign being organised at different tea gardens of the country along with the active participation of all the stakeholders viz. tea garden workers, management, Tea Board officials etc. and posting it on Tea Board India's Facebook, Twitter and Koo handles etc. A pan-India print campaign was also undertaken on the occasion of Independence Day on 15th August, 2022 in newspapers in major cities of India.

Tea Board India's participation at the 25th National Trade Exhibition, Kolkata, 24-27 August, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 25th National Trade Exhibition held at Kolkata from 24-27 August, 2022, organised by the Central Calcutta Science & Culture Organisation for Youth on the theme "Self-Reliant India: Progress, Prosperity and Sustainability". Seminars were held on 'Current Trends in Science and Technology', 'Human Rights: Prospects and Challenges', 'Importance of Netiquette in the Digital Age', 'Digital Economy: Challenges and Opportunities', 'Tourism: Health, Wealth and Progress', 'Forestry, Food and Sustainable Agriculture' etc. during the event. The Tea Board India stall attracted a huge number of visitors from all walks of life. Tea sampling was organised for the visitors on all four days of the event in order to spread awareness amongst the people about the unique taste and flavour profiles of the different varieties of Indian teas. The refreshing taste and aroma of the teas was highly appreciated by all the visitors. They were then apprised about the unique characteristics of the specialty origin teas belonging to the different regions of the country. Information about the health benefits of teas was also imparted to them. Publicity materials such as tea caddies, brochures, leaflets, pamphlets, banners and standees on Indian teas etc. were displayed at the stall.

Tea Board India's participation at India Geographical Indications (GI) Fair 2022 held from 26-28 August, 2022 at Greater Noida

Tea Board India participated at India Geographical Indications (GI) Fair 2022 held from 26-28 August, 2022 at Greater Noida organised by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH). Several exporters / artisans / entrepreneurs selling and producing GI products from Pan India participated in the exhibition. The fair showcased around 390 products tagged as GI in the country, out of which 200+ were handicrafts & handlooms. The Govt. of India and the Ministry of Commerce &Industry has given emphasis on promotion of exports of traditional Geographical Indication (GI) products from India. Tea Board India showcased the treasured GI teas namely Darjeeling, Assam Orthodox, Nilgiri Orthodox and Kangra. Tea sampling was done and information on Indian GI teas was imparted. India GI Fair got prominent buyers from USA, Canada, Turkey, Oman, Australia, UK, Netherlands, Denmark, Italy and Jordan. This was a new platform which has provided a significant glimpse of India's strengths in multiple sectors and industries.

September 2022

Tea Board India's participation at Bio Fach India 2022 held at Greater Noida from 1-3 September, 2022

Tea Board India participated at Bio Fach India 2022- a leading Trade Fair for the organic industry in India, organised by The Organic Farming Association of India in collaboration with Nürnberg Messe India and APEDA from September 1-3, 2022 at the India Expo Centre & Mart at Greater Noida. Tea sampling of organic Indian teas was organised at Tea Board's stall which was highly appreciated by the visitors. The main objective of the event was to provide an ideal forum to meet relevant buyers and investors. The platform offered exhibitor product showcase, conference programme, B2B-buyer seller meetings, Vendor Development program, CEOs Conclave etc. This event not only provided

opportunities for the farmers to grow organically but also receive an international recognition in the global market through their organic products.

'Run for Tripura Tea' organised at Agartala on 03.09.2022

'Run for Tripura Tea' was organized at Agartala by Tea Board India in association with Tripura Tea Development Corporation (TTDC) on 3rd September, 2022 to promote and popularize Tripura tea and create awareness regarding its health benefits. Shri Ratan Lal Nath, Hon'ble Education Minister, Government of Tripura, flagged off the 'Run for Tea' along with Shri Sushanta Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Tripura. Smt. Arunita Phukan Yadav, Executive Director, North East Zonal Office (NEZO), Tea Board India, Senior officers from Tea Board India, Shri Abhishek Chandra, Special Secretary, Department of Industries, Government of Tripura, Shri Santosh Saha, Chairman, Tripura Tea Development Corporation (TTDC) and other dignitaries participated in the 'Run for Tea'.

Visit of a delegation from South Korea to Assam and South India from 6-14 September, 2022

A delegation from South Korea visited some of the tea-growing areas of Assam and South India from 6-14 September, 2022. The objective of the delegation, led by Mr. Shawn S. Jung, president of the Tea Association of Korea, was to explore the possibility of increasing Indian tea imports into South Korea. Embassy of India, Seoul, facilitated the delegation's visit to India. Visits to various tea gardens, factories and tea sampling & tasting sessions were organised for the delegation by Tea Board India and the Indian tea stakeholders

Indian tea sampling and appreciation sessions at the promotional event named "Festival Extraordinary Garden" at St. Petersburg, Russia, September 24-25, 2022

Consulate General of India, St. Petersburg, Russia, in collaboration with Tea Board India, organised Indian tea sampling and appreciation sessions at the promotional event named "Festival Extraordinary Garden" held in St. Petersburg during Sep 24 - 25, 2022. which was dedicated to tea rituals of different countries. The event comprised a tea-focused exhibition along with lectures and presentations on tea traditions of different countries including India. There were sizeable footfalls of tea enthusiasts at the 2-day event.

Virtual Buyer-Seller Meet organised by High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in association with Tea Board India, 27.09.2022

A Virtual Buyer-Seller Meet was organised by High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in association with Tea Board India on 27.09.2022. Shri Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India, during his inaugural address, stressed on the need to enhance Indian tea exports to Malaysia and encouraged exporters to work towards this goal. Ms. C. Sushma, First Secretary, High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur, gave a brief overview of the tea trade scenario in Malaysia. Shri Joydip Biswas, Deputy Director, Tea Promotion, Tea Board India, gave a short presentation on "India Tea" and articulated the key expectations from the virtual meet. Mr. Choon Kong Liew of Malaysia Tea Association (MyTA) gave a special address on "Boosting bi-lateral trade". Mr. Dato' Seri N. Gobala Krishnan, President of MAICCI (Malaysian Association Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) expressed his views on "Promotion of Indian Tea and Tea Products in Malaysia" and Mr. S.K. Sundaram, Advisor in KLSICCI (Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry) imparted knowledge on "Tea Policy adopted in Malaysia for Indian Exporters".

Local, Local to Global".

Huge number of people visited the Tea Board India stall during the trade fair in Pragati Maidan. Tea Board India showcased varieties of India Teas and Tea Board stall remained the favourite choice of visitors due to sampling of different varieties of Indian teas. The daily footfall at the Tea Board Stall was around 1000-1500 visitors.

Training Programmes on Tea Export

A presentation on "Tea Export in North East India: A role model for other sectors from the region" was given by Tea Board India on 10th November, 2022 during a training programme entitled "Export Orientation of Agriculture/Horticulture" for the SMEs of KVKs and officers of the Agriculture Departments organised by the Directorate of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat. Basics of marketing including need for branding & suitable packaging, a concise roadmap and various issues involved in connection with tea exports from the NER were addressed during the presentation. A separate training programme was organised by Tea Board India on "Basics of Marketing" and "Establishing market linkages" for Small Tea Growers of Jorhat and Golaghat, Assam on 11th November, 2022.

trade fair also featured significant conference sessions on the tea and coffee industries that covered important industry topics. Several important brands such as Wagh Bakri Tea Group, Chai Point, Sleepy Owl, Luxmi Tea, Flavourtech and many more exhibited their products and services at this event.

Tea Board India's participation at the 33rd Tripura Industries and Commerce Fair held from 10th December-25th December, 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 33rd Tripura Industries and Commerce Fair organized by the Department of Industries & Commerce, Govt. Of Tripura at Agartala from 10th December-25th December, 2022.

Shri Ram Prasad Paul, Hon'ble Minister of Fire & Emergency Service and Welfare of OBC & Minorities, Govt of Tripura, inaugurated the 33rd Tripura Industries & Commerce Fair on 10th December 2022.

"Export oriented Seminar-cum-Exhibition" organised by Tea Board India at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 16.12.2022

Tea Board India organised an "Export oriented Seminar cum Exhibition" at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 16.12.2022. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri Hage Tari, Secretary, Trade and Commerce, Government of Arunachal Pradesh. The main objective of the seminar was to orient the participants with the essentials of the export process, effective handling of the export barriers and as well as opportunities, procedures related to export documentations with dissemination of the trends and technologies of packaging along with showcasing of exportable products & produce of the State.

Tea Board India's participation at 7th Assam International Agri Horti Show, Guwahati from 17th Dec to 19th Dec 2022

Tea Board India participated at the 7th Assam International Agri Horti Show at Guwahati from 17th December to 19th December 2022. Sri Atul Borah, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Horticulture and Food Processing, Animal Husbandry, Urban Development, Govt. of Assam, Sri Parimal Suklya Baidya, Hon'ble Minister for forest, Fisheries and Excise, Govt. of Assam, Sri Akhil Gogoi, Hon'ble MLA, Sivsagar , Assam and other dignitaries visited Board's stall.

January 2023

Creation of 'Indian Tea Experience Zone' on the sidelines of the 1st Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Meeting, one of the G20 Meetings organized by Ministry of Finance, Government of India on 10-11 January, 2023 at Kolkata

Tea Board India set up an 'Indian Tea Experience Zone' on the sidelines of the 1st Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Meeting, one of the G20 Meetings organized by Ministry of Finance, Government of India at Kolkata on 10-11 January, 2023. Shri Arjun Munda, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, and Ms. Manish Sinha, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, visited the 'Indian Tea Experience Zone's organised for the G20 delegates during the G20 Meeting at Kolkata and tasted and appreciated the Indian teas displayed during the event.

The 'Indian Tea Experience Zone' offered a unique opportunity to the delegates who were part of the G20 meetings, for experiencing and savouring the wide varieties of Indian teas as well as tasting and sampling the different specialty teas such as Darjeeling, Assam, Dooars, Terai, Nilgiri, Kangra, Sikkim, Masala Chai, Green Tea, Oolong Tea, White Tea and many more.

Various tea exporters displayed and sampled their tea packets, tea caddies, loose teas, various blends etc. at the Indian Tea Experience Zone. The exporters sampled tea bags, loose leaf teas, green tea, white tea, oolong tea, Darjeeling first and second flush teas, Assam second flush tea, kadak CTC chai, masala chai blends, English and Irish breakfast teas, Earl Grey as per the preferences and requests of the delegates. Large number of delegates visited the Indian Tea Experience Zone and enthusiastically tasted the multitude of flavours on offer at the India Tea pavilion, which facilitated a threefold organoleptic experience of taste, sight and aroma of Indian teas. Several of the delegates were very eager to know about the history, flavour profiles, manufacturing processes and correct brewing methods of their favourite Indian teas. A lot of business enquiries and opportunities were generated for the Indian Tea Experience Zone. Promotional films on Indian tea were displayed on a large LED screen at the Indian Tea Experience Zone throughout the day.

The Indian Tea Experience Zone was designed with a truly Indian look and feel with exotic and world class accessories for brewing and sampling the teas, such as glass teapots, brewing equipment, the typically Indian kulhads etc. No wonder, the Indian Tea Experience Zone was thronged by crowds and the delighted delegates amplified the experience through their positive word of mouth. Gifts of high-quality Indian teas packaged in attractive gift boxes were given to the G20 delegates, thus enabling them to savour their memorable experiences of Indian teas and providing a very good brand recall for Indian tea.

Tea Board India's participation at 6th Edition of Indus Food 2023 held from 8th to 10th January, 2023 at Hyderabad

Tea Board India participated at the 6th Edition of Indus Food 2023 held from 8th to 10th January, 2023 at Hyderabad, organised by Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI). Indus Food is an export-focused promotional trade fair-cum-Reverse-Buyers-Sellers Meet (RBSM) to promote India's agri, F&B and its allied products to global buyers. Several foreign visitors from Oman, Netherlands, Australia etc. visited the Tea Board India pavilion. During the fair, retailers and buyers had opportunities to learn, network, and conduct business with new and existing exhibiting suppliers with an expanded emphasis on showcasing new brands and technologies to a greater variety of buyers connecting the global F&B industry. The event provided opportunity to local small and medium food producers in the Southern Indian region to discuss future business prospects with the global buyers.

Tea Board India's participation at Kreta Suraksha Mela 2023 organised by Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata, 19-21 January, 2023

Tea Board India participated at the Kreta Suraksha Mela 2023 organised by Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal, at Kolkata from 19-21 January, 2023. The visitors were apprised about the wide varieties of Indian teas and their distinguishing characteristics. Publicity literatures and promotional materials on Indian teas helped to spread awareness amongst the visitors about Indian teas. Tea sampling and tea tasting activities were organised for the visitors of the exhibition.

Meeting with Export Inspection Agency held on 18/01/2023

A Meeting with "Export Inspection Agency, Kolkata" was held on 18/01/23 on devising modalities about inclusion of several NABL-accredited laboratories for on-shore testing prior to shipments for recognition and a

Guwahati on 02.02.2023. Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping, Waterways and Hon'ble Minister of AYUSH, Government of India, enjoyed Indian Teas at the pavilion. Several G20 delegates also enjoyed and appreciated the wide variety of teas displayed at the India Tea pavilion.

Tea Board India pavilion on the sidelines of the 1st FMCBG and 2nd FCBD meeting under the G20 India Presidency, Bengaluru, 22-25 February, 2023

Tea Board India displayed and sampled the different varieties of Indian teas by setting up a pavilion on the sidelines of the 1st FMCBG and 2nd FCBD meeting under the G20 India Presidency, held at Bengaluru from 22-25 February, 2023. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Government of India, visited the Tea Board India pavilion. Several of the G20 Delegates visited the Tea Board India pavilion and enjoyed and appreciated the different varieties of Indian teas.

Participation of Tea Board India at Udyam 2023 organised by MSME, Govt of Assam at Duliajan, Assam, from 25th February 2023 to 1st March 2023

Tea Board India participated at Udyam 2023 organised by MSME, Govt of Assam at Duliajan, Assam, from 25th February 2023 to 1st March 2023 by putting up a pavilion and displaying teas of Small Tea Growers. A number of dignitaries, including Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping, Waterways and Hon'ble Minister of AYUSH, Govt of India, Shri Rameswar Teli, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Labour and Employment, Govt of India, Shri Ranjeet Kumar Dass, Hon'ble Minister For Panchayat& Rural Development, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Gen. Adm., Law & Justice Dept, Govt of Assam, Shri Bimal Bora, Hon'ble Minister of Industries & Commerce and Public Enterprises and Cultural Affairs, Govt of Assam and Shri Terash Gowalla, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly from Duliajan Constituency, Assam, visited the Tea Board India pavilion. Shri Ranjeet Kumar Dass, Hon'ble Minister for Panchayat & Rural Development, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Gen. Adm., Law & Justice Dept, Govt of Assam, purchased some of the teas displayed by Small Tea Growers at the Tea Board India pavilion and appreciated the teas.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary (Plantations) on 22.02.2023

A substantive virtual meeting was held on February 22, 2023 involving the stakeholders (producers, packeteers, exporters), which was chaired by Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary (Plantations). Shri Saurav Pahari, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India, Dr. M. Muthukumar, Executive Director, South India Zonal Office, Tea Board India, Smt. Arunita Phukan Yadav, Executive Director, North East Zonal Office, and Director Tea Promotion (I/C), Tea Board India, and other officials from Tea Research Association (TRA) and UPASI (United Planters Association of South India) attended the meeting.

March 2023

Reverse Buyer Seller Meet organised by North East Zonal Office, Tea Board India,

A reverse Buyer Seller Meet was organized in the tea-growing districts of Jorhat, Tinsukia, Golaghat, Charaideo, Sibsagar and Dibrugarh, Assam as part of celebrations of 200 years of Assam Tea Industry, 20-24 March, 2023. Tea buyers from Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Siliguri and other cities had fruitful interactions with tea producers from the above-mentioned districts in Assam.

Tea Board India's participation at 37thAahar International Food and Hospitality Fair, New Delhi, 14-18 March, 2023

Tea Board India participated at 37thAahar International Food and Hospitality Fair held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14-18 March, 2023. Aahar 2023 was organised by ITPO with active support of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, APEDA, ARCHII, HOTREMAI, FHSAI, FIFI, FIWA and AIFPA, FAIC, FIFHI, ICMA, KREMAG and Plant Based Foods Industry Association. Over one lakh business visitors and 1,500 participants from India and abroad explored opportunities of tie-ups, networking and joint ventures in the fair. The concluding ceremony of Aahar witnessed an award ceremony wherein Shri Pradeep Singh Kharola, chairman & managing director, ITPO, and Shri Rajat Agarwal, executive director, ITPO, presented the Awards for Excellence in display in various categories. Tea Board India won the Bronze Medal in the Government/Commodity Boards/PSU Sectors category.

Celebration of International Women's Day on 8th March, 2023

Various programmes for felicitation of the Top Women Tea Pluckers at various Tea Gardens in the country were organized on the occasion of International Women's Day on 8th March, 2023.

Sponsorship of second edition of Telangana Tea Championship held at Hyderabad on 26th March, 2023

Tea Board India sponsored the second edition of the Telangana Tea Championship, organized by Hybiz.tv, held at Hyderabad on 26th March, 2023. Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India, graced the Telangana Tea Championship as Chief Guest. More than 200 women participated in the Telangana Tea Championship and a team of experienced professionals from the Hospitality industry selected the list of awardees. "Our day begins with Tea and there is no doubt that Tea helps in finding solutions to many of our problems," Shri G Kishan Reddy asserted.

Indian Tea Tasting Zone on the sidelines of the 1st Trade & Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting, organized by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India from 28-30 March, 2023 at Mumbai

Tea Board India set up an 'Indian Tea Tasting Zone' on the sidelines of the 1st Trade & Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting, organized by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India during 28-30 March, 2023 at Mumbai.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, visited the Indian Tea Lounge on 30th March, 2023, and appreciated the myriad varieties of Indian teas being sampled and displayed at the lounge. He also expressed his love for Indian teas and highlighted the relaxing and rejuvenating qualities of Indian teas. Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India visited the 'Indian Tea Tasting Zone' on 29th March, 2023 and tasted and appreciated the Indian teas displayed during the event.

The Indian Tea Tasting Zone offered a unique opportunity to the delegates who were part of the G20 meeting, to experience and savour the wide varieties of Indian teas as well as taste and sample the different specialty teas such as Darjeeling, Assam, Dooars Terai, Nilgiri, Kangra, Sikkim, Masala Chai, Green Tea, White Tea and many more. Various tea exporters displayed and sampled their tea packets, tea caddies, loose teas, various blends etc. at the Indian Tea Experience Zone.

Apart from sampling of liquid teas, a unique feature of the Indian Tea Tasting Zone was the serving of various snacks and savoury delicacies having Indian teas as a prominent ingredient in their recipes, such as Masala Chai Peda, Green Tea and Pineapple Pastry, Dry Chole cooked in black tea liquor.

The delegates were pleasantly surprised with these innovative snacks and finger foods made with Indian teas, which were hugely popular among all the visitors.

Promotional films on Indian tea were displayed on large LED screens, both at the entrance and inside the Indian Tea Tasting Zone throughout the day. The Indian Tea Tasting Zone was designed taking care of the aesthetics with display of exotic and world class accessories for brewing and sampling the teas, such as glass teapots, brewing equipment, the typically Indian kulhads etc. The delegates amplified the experience through their positive word of mouth. Gifts of high-quality Indian teas packaged in attractive gift boxes were given to the G20 delegates, thus enabling them to savour their memorable experience of Indian teas and providing a very good brand recall for Indian tea.

Annexure I

Major destination wise exports during 2022-23

	Apr-Mar, 2022-23					Apr-Mar, 2021-22				
y)	Value (Rs.Crs)	Value (Mill US$)	Unit Price (Rs/Kg)	Unit Price ($/Kg)	Qty (M.Kgs)	Value (Rs Crs.)	Value (Mill US$)	Unit Price (Rs/Kg)	Unit Price ($/Kg)

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, at the Indian Tea Experience Zone, Mumbai, 30th March, 2023

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, at the Indian Tea Experience Zone, Mumbai 30th March, 2023

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, at the Indian Tea Experience Zone, Mumbai, 30th March, 2023

Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India at the Indian Tea Experience Zone, Mumbai on 29th March, 2023

G20 Delegates at the Indian Tea Experience Zone, Mumbai, 28-30 March, 2023

Reverse Buyer Seller Meet organised by North East Zonal Office, Tea Board India, in the tea-growing districts of Jorhat, Tinsukia, Golaghat, Charaideo, Sibsagar and Dibrugarh, Assam as part of celebrations of 200 years of Assam Tea Industry, 20-24 March, 2023

Tea Board India's participation at 37thAahar International Food and Hospitality Fair, New Delhi, 14-18 March, 2023

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Government of India, at the Tea Board India pavilion at the 1st FMCBG and 2nd FCBD meeting under the G20 India Presidency, Bengaluru, 23rd February, 2023

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping, Waterways and Hon'ble Minister of AYUSH, Government of India, at the Tea Board India stall at the 1st Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency, Guwahati, 02.02.2023

Tea Board India's participation at 6th Edition of Indus Food 2023 held from 8th to 10th January, 2023 at Hyderabad.

Shri Arjun Munda, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, and Ms. Manish Sinha, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, at the Indian Tea Experience Zone on the sidelines of the 1st Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Meeting, one of the G20 Meetings organized by Ministry of Finance, Government of India on 10-11 January, 2023 at Kolkata

G20 Delegates at the Indian Tea Experience Zone on the sidelines of the 1st Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Meeting, one of the G20 Meetings organized by Ministry of Finance, Government of India on 10-11 January, 2023 at Kolkata

Tea Board India's participation at 7th Assam International Agri Horti Show, Guwahati from 17th Dec to 19th Dec 2022

Tea Board's Participation at 41st India International Trade Fair held from 14-27 November, 2022 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Shri Hage Tari, Secretary, Trade and Commerce, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, speaking at the "Export oriented Seminar cum Exhibition" organised by Tea Board India at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 16.12.2022

Smt. Arunita Phukan Yadav, Executive Director, North East Zonal Office and Director Tea Promotion (I/C), speaking at the "Export oriented Seminar cum Exhibition" organised by Tea Board India at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 16.12.2022

Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma (centre), Hon’ble Chief Minister of Assam, at the “Assam Tea Golden Cup” - all Assam inter-garden women's football competition, 2022, sponsored by Tea Board India

Visit of a delegation from South Korea to Assam and South India from 6-14 September, 2022

Tea tasting session organized for the delegation from South Korea at Golaghat, Assam, 6th September, 2023

'Run for Tripura Tea' organised at Agartala on 03.09.2022

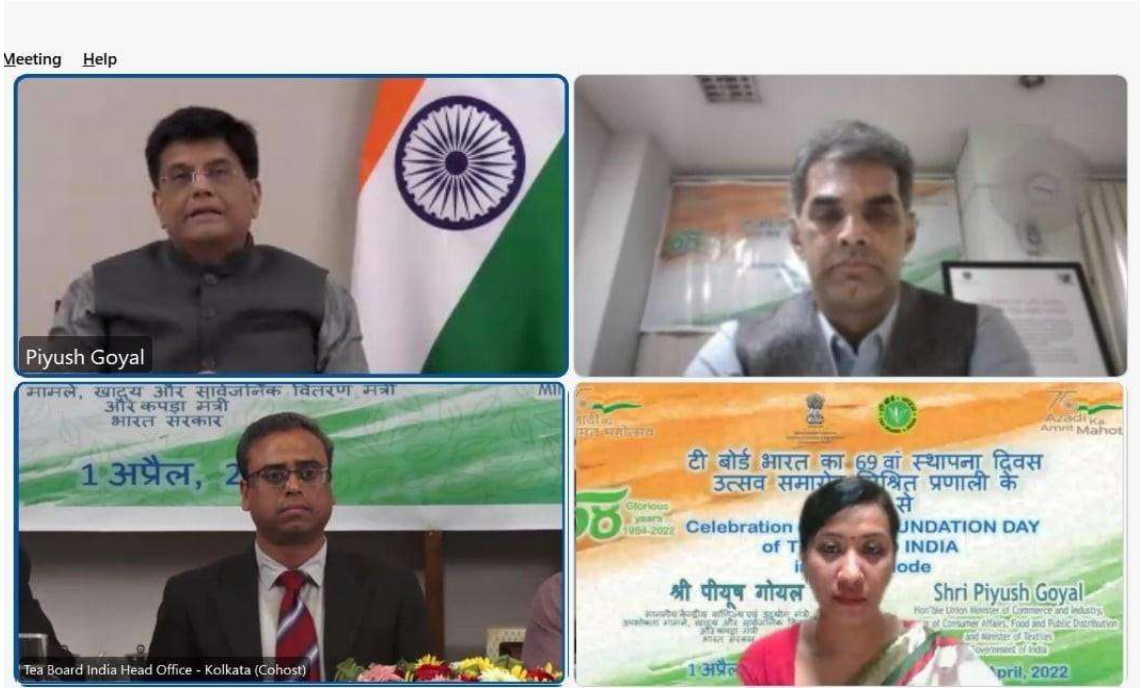
Tea Board India's participation at India Geographical Indications (GI) Fair 2022 held from 26-28 August, 2022 at Greater Noida

Stakeholders' consultation meetings on "Formulation of Packaging Standards" organised by Tea Board India at Dibrugarh, Assam on 25th June, 2022

Observance of International Day of Yoga by Tea Board India, 21.06.2022

Observance of International Day of Yoga by Tea Board India, 21.06.2022

Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India, addressing the seminar organized on the occasion of the 3rd International Tea Day on 21st May, 2022, through the virtual mode.



Shri Piyush Goyal (top left), Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, addressing the Stakeholders of the Tea Industry through the virtual mode on the occasion of the 69th Foundation Day of Tea Board India on 1st April, 2022.

CHAPTER – 7

LICENSING BRANCH

7.1 Introduction:

The Licensing Branch is a vital wing of the Board for implementation of various statutory and regulatory orders issued by the Government of India from time to time. Licensing Branch is responsible for carrying out various licensing activities which includes issuance of various licenses to stakeholders for carrying out tea business along with other activities like formulating regulatory policies, amendment of existing Control Orders, preparation of guidelines for issuance of licenses, monitoring and regulation of the activities of stakeholders to ensure proper implementation of different directives of Central Government and Tea Board issued from time to time. The department is also responsible for monitoring of the auction system, monitoring quality of exports and imports, etc. which are significant to the tea trade.

7.2 Regulatory Provisions:

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (3) and (5) of Section 30 of the Tea Act, the following statutory provisions notified by Central Government are in existence which governs the entire licensing and regulatory activities:-

1. **The Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003**
2. **The Tea (Distribution & Export) Control Order, 2005**
3. **The Tea Waste (Control) Order, 1959**
4. **The Tea Warehouse (Licensing) Order, 1989**

7.2.1 Introduction of online licensing system:

Board has introduced online licensing system from April, 2018 onwards for issuance and renewal of all kind of licensing applications under various Control Orders. This online licensing system has replaced the existing manual process of submitting hard copy of licensing applications with improved and transparent online process, timely disposal of applications, online status tracking etc.

7.2.2 **Details of licenses issued:**

The number of licenses issued across the country for the financial period 2022-23 along with the quantum of revenue generated is tabulated below:

Sl No	Control Orders	Nature of License/ Registration	No. of licenses/ registration/certificates issued
1	The Tea Marketing (Control) Order, 2003	NOC to manufacturing units	276 (143 Fresh and 133 Modification)
		Registration to manufacturing units	77 (Fresh – 46 and 31 Modification)
		Buyer Registration	301 (Fresh – 298 and 3 Modification)
		Broker License	22 (Fresh- Nil and Renewal-22)
		Auction Organizer License	8 (Fresh-1and Renewal-7)
		Certificate to Mini Tea Factory	12
2	Tea Distribution (Control) Order, 2005	Exporter License	679 (556 Fresh, 102 Renewal , 21 Modification and Nil Permanent)
		Distributor License	25
3	Tea Waste (Control) Order, 1959	Tea Waste License	612 (298 Fresh and 314 Renewal)
4	Tea Warehousing Control Order, 1989	Tea Warehouse License	172 (71 Fresh, 92 Renewal and 9 Modification)
5	GSR 694 (E) dated 11.10.99 issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India	Registration of flavour tea manufacturer	77 (Fresh 46 and 31 Modification)
6	Foreign Trade policy, Govt of India	Registration cum Membership Certificate (RCMC)	329
7	Tea Act	Recording of change of ownership of registered estates	30
		Recording of change of ownership of registered factories	41
		Garden Registration	3
		Total	**2664**

Total Rs.3,10,34,396/- (exclusive of GST) revenue has been collected in terms of license fee and registration fee during the financial year 2022-23.

In

A. Samp

No. of samples drawn	
245	

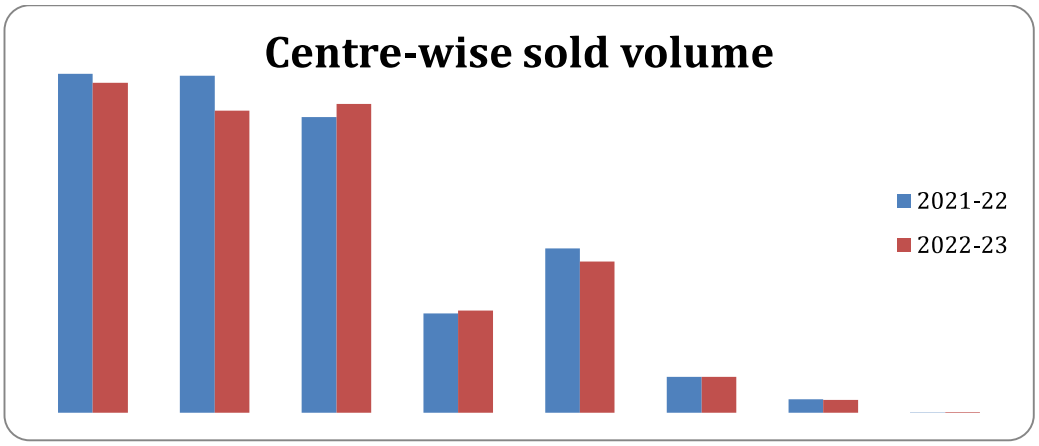
B. Samples drawn from

Apart from drawing sample
the teas imported in India. U
parameters, the correspondin
contained in the Tea (Marketing)
Control Order, 2005, thus ensuring
2022-23, Board had collected mainly
details thereof are as follows:

Name exporting country	No. of samples drawn from imported tea	No. of samples sent to NABL accredited laboratory	re
Nepal	36	36	36

The quantum of tea sold and purchased through e-auction under Pan India Module as well as Jorhat e-Marketplace during last two financial years are as follows:

Auction Centre	April 2021 to March 2022		April 2022 to March 2023	
	Qty (MKgs)	Price (Rs/kg)	Qty (MKgs)	Price (Rs/kg)
Kolkata Leaf	126.33	212.55	123.33	236.65
Kolkata Dust	34.28	205.8	32.89	217.31
Total Kolkata	**160.61**	**211.11**	**156.22**	**232.58**
Guwahati Leaf	113.59	184.31	104.60	190.77
Guwahati Dust	46.11	178.67	38.46	192.03
Total Guwahati	**159.7**	**182.68**	**143.07**	**191.11**
Siliguri Leaf	124.21	178.28	130.35	176.62
Siliguri Dust	15.81	167.75	15.88	175.84
Total Siliguri	**140.02**	**177.09**	**146.23**	**176.53**
Cochin Leaf	9.62	145.3	13.03	164.63
Cochin Dust	37.42	132.12	35.42	137.33
Total Cochin	**47.04**	**134.82**	**48.44**	**144.67**
Coonoor Leaf	59.1	98.45	53.18	97.28
Coonoor Dust	18.81	99.32	18.33	103.62
Total Coonoor	**77.91**	**98.66**	**71.52**	**98.91**
Coimbatore Leaf	8.06	103.1	7.33	102.45
Coimbatore Dust	8.95	109.88	9.75	117.93
Total Coimbatore	**17.01**	**106.67**	**17.08**	**111.29**
TeaServe Leaf	4.07	84.22	2.93	83.61
TeaServe Dust	2.27	84.68	3.08	92.39
Total TeaServe	**6.34**	**84.39**	**6.01**	**88.11**
Jorhat e-Marketplace Leaf	0.19	160.23	0.22	172.44
Jorhat e-Marketplace Dust	0.06	143.61	0.07	150.60
Total Jorhat e-Marketplace	**0.25**	**155.86**	**0.29**	**166.81**
Grand Total	**608.88**	**171.29**	**588.85**	**180.09**



As on 31st March, 2023 (FY 2022-23), an amount of Rs. 4.71 crores (including taxes) has been collected by Tea Board from the post-sale transactions.

Special Auction: On occasion of International Tea Day 2022, special plucking of quality tea leaves was organized by Tea Board, which was finally auctioned on 20th June 2022. Total 23,699.10 kg. tea had been sold with average price of Rs.342.81 per kg. in the special session of auction. The highest price fetched in the special session was Rs.99,999.00 per kg. All the seven auction centres of the country, viz. Kolkata, Guwahati, Siliguri, Coonoor, Coimbatore, Cochin and Teaserve-Coonoor centre as well as Jorhat auction centre participated in the special auction.

7.5 Milestones achieved:

- **Implementation of Bharat Auction (also known as Japanese Auction model)**: Board entrusted IIM, Bangalore to conduct a strategic analysis on the existing auction model in the light of globalisation of markets and developments of latest technology and corresponding improvement in the price discovery with an objective to make the tea auction process more robust in nature. As per recommendation of IIM, Bangalore, Board had implemented Bharat Auction at all registered tea auction centres located in South India from sale No.1 of January 2022 and the same has been launched in the registered auction centres of North India from sale no.12/2023 commenced from 20.03.2023.

- **Standardization of grades:** Rationalization and standardization of grades was one of the key recommendations of Professor Mahadevan Committee, IIM Bangalore. Board, after due consultation with the stakeholders, has standardized various grades into total 219 grades. Offerings, selling, creation of catalogue, etc. activities are being carried out by all registered auction centres across India w.e.f. 1st April 2022 as per the standardized grades.

7.6 New Initiatives:

- Tea Board, in association with the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura has taken certain initiatives to reduce transportation cost for selling of Tripura tea through auction, thereby maximizing the profit margin for the sellers, enabling them to offer fresh teas to the potential buyers. Board has submitted a concept paper on the matter to the Government of Tripura on 13.10.2022 proposing to set up a state of the art centralized warehouse space in Tripura along with value added services. Board has also proposed that the duty imposed by Bangladesh on importing tea from India may be reduced suitably for enabling the Bangladeshi importers to directly participate in the Indian auction for purchasing tea thereby encouraging further expansion of the Indian tea industry. Reply of Government of Tripura is yet to be received by Tea Board in the matter.

CHAPTER-8

STATISTICS

Introduction:

Primary functions of Statistics Branch of Tea Board is to collect, collate and dissemination of statistical information relating to all aspects of tea industry and trade covering area under cultivation, production, productivity, types of tea produced in the country, primary market prices, export and destination of exports on tea and workers employed in tea plantations etc. Such information forms a crucial input for the policy matters of the Board, the Government and the Industry.

Dissemination of Statistical Information:

Information on weekly auction prices, monthly production and export data are disseminated in the website of the Board - www.teaboard.gov.in in the public domain for the trade, industry, research scholars etc.,

Monitoring of Tea Prices:

The Statistics Branch has been monitoring and providing required information on auction prices to Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food& Public Distribution in connection with the construction of Wholesale Price Indices (WPI) of Plantation Crops and Index of Industrial Production (IIP) respectively. The retail price of tea at different cities/towns is also being compiled by the Statistics Branch.

Taxes & Duties:

Excise Duty :**12.5%** ad-valorem on Instant Tea falling under heading 2101.2010

Export Duty: Nil

Import Duty: Nil on teas imported by Export Oriented Units (EOU) and Special Economic Zone (SEZ) units for the purpose of re-export. However, teas imported for domestic markets would attract basic import duty of 100% plus 10% surcharge plus special additional duty of 4% on basic duty and surcharge (w. e. f. 1st March, 2002).Concessionary rate of 7.5% basic duty plus other normal surcharges apply to imports from Sri Lanka up to a volume of 15 M Kgs per calendar year.

Customs Duty of Tea from ASEAN Countries such as Vietnam, Indonesia etc., is covered under ASEAN agreement and presently is 45%. No import duty is levied on Tea imported into India from Nepal, only 5% IGST is charged on such import.

Goods and Service Tax:

The present rate of GST on Tea is 5% i.e. 2.5% CGST + 2.5% SGST. In case of inter-state supply, the rate of IGST on Tea is 5%.

STATUS OF TEA INDUSTRY AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR 2022-23

PRODUCTION:

India tea production during 2022-23 is 1374.97 M. Kgs increased by 30.57 M. Kgs over 2021-22.

The major tea growing States Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala contribute 97.29% of the total tea production while the remaining in other States. Out of the total tea production, CTC contributes 89% while the Orthodox and Green Tea contributes around 11%.

ORGANISED SECTOR:

There were 1567 tea estates. This sector has an established 931 manufacturing Units. During 2022-23, the Organized Sector share of production is seen at 48%.

SMALL TEA GROWERS:

Small Growers enumeration is a continuous process. As on 31.03.2023, the number of Small Tea Growers enumerated are 237068. The Small Growers contribution to total tea production is increasing year to year. During the year 2022-23 small growers' share of production is seen at 52%.

EXPORTS:

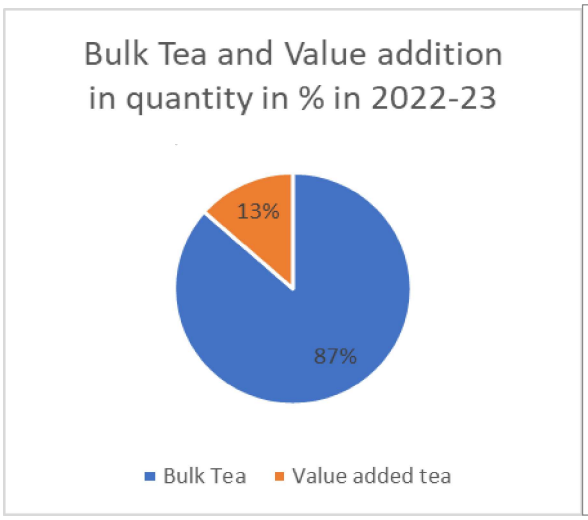
Tea Exports during 2022-23 were 228.40 M. Kgs in quantity with value realization of Rs. 6385.81Crs. It was higher by 27.61 m kg in quantity and Rs.970.03Crsin value and the unit price realization was Rs. 279.59 per Kg, improved by Rs.9.87 per Kg.

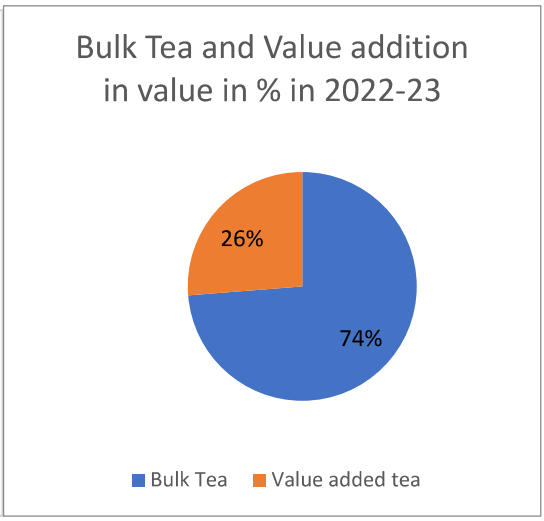
.

Exports of Tea from India

Year	Quantity (M Kgs)	Value (RsCrs)	Unit Price (Rs/kg)	Bulk Tea		Value added tea	
				Qty (M.Kgs)	Value (Rs.Crs.)	Qty (M.Kgs)	Value (Rs.Crs.)
2021-22	200.79	5415.78	269.72	168.64	3780.22	32.15	1635.56
2022-23	228.40	6385.81	279.59	197.66	4707.91	30.74	1677.90

It is observed that during 2022-23 about 13.46 % of total exports are in the value added form (packet tea, tea bags and instant tea) while rest is exported in the bulk form.





IMPORT OF TEA INTO INDIA

During the year 2022-23, tea imports stands at 29.12 M.Kgs. with CIF value of Rs. 427.99 Crores. as against 25.97 M Kgs with CIF value of Rs. 379.36Crs in 2021-22.

TEA PRICE AT AUCTION

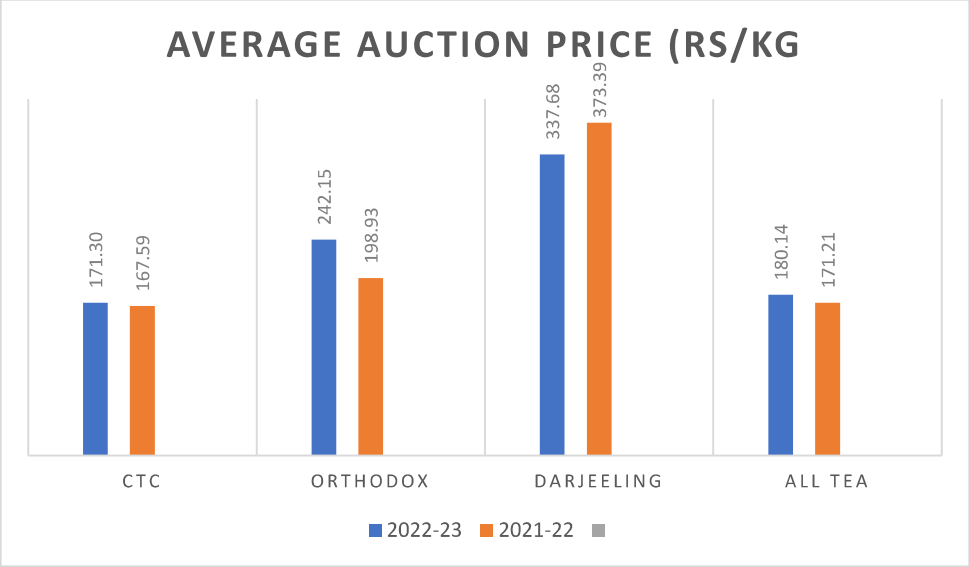
During the year under report about 43% of total tea produced in the country was sold through public auctions remaining through other modes.

Year	North India		South India		All India	
	Qty. (M. Kgs)	Avg. Price (Rs/Kg)	Qty. (M. Kgs)	Avg. Price (Rs/Kg)	Qty. (M.Kgs)	Avg. Price (Rs/Kg)
2021-22	461.61	190.81	148.78	110.38	610.39	171.21
2022-23	445.81	200.91	143.05	115.43	588.86	180.14

During 2022-23 the quantity sold in public auctions was declined but the average auction price improved over that of 2021-22. The North India auction average price increased by Rs.10.10 per kg (5.29%) and the South India auction average price increased by Rs.5.05 per kg (4.58%) as compared to last year. The All India auction average price during 2022-23increased by Rs.8.93 per kg (5.22%) as compared to 2021-22.

The category wise price during 2022-23 as compared to 2021-22 are given hereunder which shows that average auction prices of all categories except Darjeeling increased.

Category	2022-23 Price Rs/Kg)	2021-22 Price Rs/Kg)	Incr/decr Price Rs/Kg)
CTC	171.30	167.59	3.71
Orthodox	242.15	198.93	43.22
Darjeeling	337.68	373.39	-35.71
All Tea	180.14	171.21	8.93



Domestic Retention:

The apparent domestic retention of tea for the year 2022-23 was around 1176 M. Kgs. as against 1170 M. Kgs in 2021-22.

CHAPTER: 9

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(Welfare of Workers-wards of the small tea growers)

1. Introduction

Supporting welfare measures for securing better working conditions and improvement of amenities and incentives for workers and their dependents is one of the objectives and functions of the Tea Board, as mandated in the Tea Act, 1953. Since the working conditions of tea garden workers in the country are governed by the Plantation Labour Act (PLA), 1951 and the same is being implemented by the concerned State Governments, the welfare activities undertaken by the Board are supplementary in nature and cover general welfare measures.

2. Labour Welfare Committee

The Labour Welfare Committee of the Board guides in its capacity as an Advisory Body of the Board. The Board is assisted towards implementation of various labour welfare activities by the Labour Welfare Committee which comprised of the following members during the year under report:

1. Shri D. Devid
2. Shri E. P. Sivadasan
3. Shri K. K. Manojkumar
4. Shri Mrigendra Jalan
5. Shri Prafull Ranjan Verma
6. Shri Rajib K. Gohain
7. Shri Sushil K. Berlia
8. Shri T. K. Thullaseedharan Pillai

During the year under report the Board/Labour Welfare Committee met on 28th February 2023 in the 248th Meeting of the Board.

3. Welfare measures under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme for 15th Finance Commission (2021-22 to 2025-26)

The Tea Development & Promotion Scheme for 15th Finance Commission (2021-22 to 2025-26) provides for the welfare measures of the wards of the small tea growers.

There are more than 2.37 lakh small tea growers throughout India with tea area approx. 2.02 lakh ha. sharing almost 52% of the total tea production. Unlike, the workers of the tea garden who are protected under various statutory Acts and Laws viz., Plantation Labour Act, the small tea growers generally work on their own plantation together with their family members and are devoid of such facility provided to the tea garden workers.

For securing better education facilities for the wards of small tea growers and welfare of tea garden workers, the following welfare measures are provided under the scheme:

i. Education to the wards of the Small Tea Growers area up to 2.00 ha

Scale of assistance	Criteria
Reimbursement of tuition fees and 2/3rd of the hostel charges (including boarding and Lodgingon the basis of actual subject to ceiling limit up to Rs.20000.00	i. Stipends will be paid to the wards of the small tea growers from elementary/primary stage in tea growing states of North and South India. Stipends will be provided for Elementary, Middle, Secondary education, General and Technical Degrees including Post Graduate courses and Technical and Vocational Education including Nursing course ii. Children of small tea growers holding tea area up to 2.00 ha. area under tea plantation, are eligible for stipend provided the concerned small tea growers are enrolled with Tea Board and possess QR code embedded Identity Card issued by Tea Board iii. Not more than 2 children including legally adopted ones can be granted. An orphan adopted by a grower and dependent on him or her can also be granted stipend iv. An orphan adopted by a grower and dependent on him or her can also be granted stipend v. Children in receipt of free tuition or any other scholarship/stipend from either State or Central Government are not entitled for stipend under the scheme. But in cases where such scholarship/stipend does not provide for Hostel Charges, a grant representing the balance may be sanctioned under the scheme or 2/3rdof hostel charge whichever is lower vi. Students who wish to pursue their studies through correspondence course will not be eligible vii. The applicant should have Aadhaar Card/valid Identity proof

Conditions:

a. All stipend awarded under the scheme are tenable only for one academic session for pursuing regular fulltime courses in Government recognized institutions in India only. At the end of each academic session, a candidate has to make a fresh application with the photo copy of annual progress report certified by the Head of the Institution where the student was studying in the previous academic session.

b. A stipend is tenable on the usual conditions of good conduct and satisfactory progress. No stipend is granted to a student detained in a class. However, in case when a student subsequently passes the examination by appearing in the supplementary examination for the failed subject the educational stipend may be allowed.

c. The amount of stipend under the scheme is limited to all types of school fees and 1/3 of hostel charges will be borne by the growers. Hostel charges will be payable for the period of study (excluding summer, Puja and winter vacation) as certified by the Head of the Institution.

d. The children who are interested to complete Diploma courses in Computer Science may apply for stipend scheme on the existing scheme on the existing terms and conditions provided that the Diploma Course should not be less than 2 years course and be conducted by recognized Institutions.

ii. Award for meritorious students Class X and Class XII

Scale of assistance	Criteria
Class X: Onetime lump sum grant @ Rs. 8,000/- to the eligible wards of the growers.	I. At least 60% marks in the last Secondary or equivalent examination and then undergoing studies in Higher Secondary / Higher Education from recognised Institution
	II. Children of small tea growers holding tea area up to 2.00 ha. area under tea plantation, are also eligible for the Award
Class XII: Onetime lump sum grant @ Rs. 10,000/- to the eligible wards of the growers.	III. Not more than 2 children including legally adopted ones can be granted
	IV. An orphan adopted by a grower and dependent on him or her can also be granted a stipend
	V. Students who wish to pursue their studies through correspondence course will not be eligible
	VI. The applicant should have Aadhaar Card/valid Identity proof

iii. Studies on Tea Industry

Tea Industry is a labour-intensive Industry giving direct employment to more than 1.16 million of tea workers and a considerable number of dependents on the tea plantation worker, most of whom are the female workers. There are more than 2.37 lakhs of small tea growers who are contributing more than 52% of the total India production. The socioeconomic condition of the work force largely depends on the Tea Industry and the Industry being located in the remote areas is the only source of employment to those work force. The tea industry also plays an important role in the State economy and National economy. It is very important to create an equilibrium between the industry, the workforce, production, productivity, consump

by an independent expert agency that will help the Government to frame policies for the overall development of tea industry.

4. For wards of small growers belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Community

Education Stipend: Children/dependent ward of SC/ST small tea growers holding up to 4.00ha. area under tea plantation, are eligible for the Award. Stipend is granted to a student even if he/she is detained in a class.

Award for meritorious students Class X and Class XII: The percentage of marks to be eligible shall be 50% for consideration of award. Children/dependent ward of SC/ST small tea growers holding up to 4.00 ha. area under tea plantation, are eligible for the Award.

5. Physical and Financial Progress

5.1. Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers for FY 2022-23

Physical & financial achievement under welfare of workers for the FY 2022-23											
		North East		West Bengal including Bihar		South India		Himachal Pradesh & Uttrakhand		Total (All India)	
Component	Major Activity /Sub Component	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries	Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of beneficiaries
WELFARE OF WORKERS	1. Educational Stipend	62.34	666	34.17	235	134.86	806	8.80	44	240.17	1751
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	32.02	400	27.12	366	8.40	104	0.00	0	67.54	870
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	20.70	207	33.30	333	12.00	120	0.20	2	66.20	662
	Sub total	**115.06**	**1273**	**94.59**	**934**	**155.26**	**1030**	**9.00**	**46**	**373.91**	**3283**

5.2Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers for FY 2022-23 State wise

State	Assam	Tripura	Nagaland	Meghalaya	West Bengal	Bihar	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Himachal Pradesh	Uttarakhand	Total
Financial (Rs. In Lakh)	111.48	1.89	1.5	0.19	92.94	1.65	147.05	8.21	8.246	0.756	**373.91**
No. of beneficiaries	1236	20	14	3	923	11	956	74	42	4	**3283**

5.3 **Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers under Schedule Caste Sub Plan(SCSP)for FY 2022-23**

		North East		West Bengal including Bihar		South India		Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand		Total (All India)	
Component	**Major Activity/Sub Component**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**
WELFARE OF WORKERS	1.Educational Stipend	2.61	28	6.44	53	0.75	5	0.18	1	9.98	87
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	0.48	6	10.96	137	--	--	--	--	11.44	143
	3.Award for meritorious students Class XII	0.2	2	11.9	119	--	--	--	--	12.1	121
	Sub Total	**3.29**	**36**	**29.3**	**309**	**0.75**	**5**	**0.18**	**1**	**33.52**	**351**

5.4Tea Development & Promotion Scheme: Physical & Financial achievement under welfare of wards of small tea growers under Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP) for FY 2022-23.

		North East		West Bengal including Bihar		South India		Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand		Total (All India)	
Major Head	**Major Activity/Sub Component**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**	**Financial (Rs. In Lakh)**	**No. of beneficiaries**
WELFARE OF WORKERS	1. Educational Stipend	5.79	59	1.73	15	--	--	1.01	6	8.53	80
	2. Award for meritorious students Class X	5.04	63	0.16	2	--	--	--	--	5.2	65
	3. Award for meritorious students Class XII	3.5	35	0.5	5	--	--	--	--	4	40
	Sub Total	**14.33**	**157**	**2.39**	**22**	**--**	**--**	**1.01**	**6**	**17.73**	**185**

CHAPTER – 10:

HINDI CELL

Introduction

With the enforcement of the constitution on 26 January, 1950, Hindi became the Official Language of the Union of India according to Article 343(1) of the constitution of India. Government of India was entrusted with the duty to promote the propagation and development of the Official Language Hindi, so that it may serve as a medium of expression of all the elements of the composite culture of India.

The Hindi Cell of the Board has the nodal responsibility for effective implementation of Official Language Policy of the Government of India, the Official Language Act 1963 and rules 1976 made there under. The work related to Official Language Policy and translation of important documents of the Board, is being performed under the supervision of Deputy Director (Official Language)

Compliance of Sec.3 (3) of O.L .ACT 1963:

During the period 2022-2023 provisions/sections including section 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 which is the main regulatory Act guiding Official Language Policy of the Government of India, were fully complied with.

Correspondence in Hindi:

All letters received in Hindi were invariably replied to in Hindi itself during the year under review. Vigorous efforts were made for achievement of Programme2022-23 and target laid therein.

Reports in Hindi:

Various reports like Annual Administrative Report, Annual Accounts, and Annual Audit Report of the Board were prepared in Hindi for submission to the parliament. Apart from this, Quarterly Progress Report and Annual Assessment Report regarding progressive use of Hindi, were prepared in Hindi and sent regularly to Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

Organising Hindi Workshop

During the year under review three Hindi Workshops were organized from time to time in which Assistants/Senior Assistants/Assistant Administrative Officers and other officers of the Board were trained in doing official work in Hindi. Faculties from different Government offices conducted the classes. This resulted in a favourable orientation and inclination amongst officials towards functional Hindi.

Organising Hindi Week:

With a view to create awareness regarding official Language and accelerate its use in Official work, Hindi week was organized from 7-14th September, 2022. During the course of the week, several competitions were held and there was active participation of the employees. Similar programme were organized in regional offices of the Board in India.

Hindi website

In the era of e-governance when internet has become a powerful medium, Tea Board is running its website in Hindi also on www.teaboard.gov.in because even today Hindi is the language of the most of the Indian populace. Vigorous efforts were taken to update the Hindi website of the Board and make it match with English version, which is a continuous process.

Participation in TOLIC activities.

Board actively participated in the various promotional activities pertaining to usage of Official Languages, coordinated by Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC), Kolkata.

Meeting of OLIC of the Board:

The meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) were held in each quarters wherein useful decisions were taken.

Incentive Scheme for Use of Hindi in Official Work:

Tea Board promoted and propagated the incentive scheme in Head Office as well asits regional offices in India in order to accelerate the use of Hindi. The officials and employees were benefited by these Schemes. Some employees participated and were awarded with cash prize.

Annual Programme for transacting the Official work in Hindi

In pursuance of Official Language Resolution 1967, department of OL issues programme every year to speed up propagation and development of OL Hindi and also to accelerate its progressive use for official purpose. The Annual programme of the year 2022-23 is a continuation of this, whereby considerable progress has been made in the use of Hindi in the Official transaction. The prescribed target has been achieved to some extent. However, English continues to be in use in the Board.

CHAPTER-11

VIGILANCE CELL

The Secretary of Tea Board acts as Chief Vigilance Officer of the Board. The overall activities of the Vigilance Cell are being done under the supervision of Chief Vigilance Officer. The Controller of Licensing has been assigned the duty of Vigilance Officer.

The main function of the Vigilance Cell is to implement the directives of the Government / the Central Vigilance Commission, all of which is done on a regular basis. The Vigilance Cell also attends various queries and submits reports to the Government. As per the advice of Chief Vigilance Officer, the directives of CVC in respect of tender and preventive vigilance etc. are being followed in the Board in every respect.

Vigilance Cell also observes Vigilance Awareness Week every year as per directive of the Central Vigilance Commission during which all the employees of Tea Board takes oath on efficiency and transparency while highlighting the basics mission of the awareness.

Total no. of complaints received by Vigilance Cell during the year under review are 04 on which necessary action has been initiated as per CVC manual.

RTI

[redacted] during 2022-23 along with the latest

[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] status
received		

CHAPTER-12

Report on Legal Cell for the year 2022-2023

Tea Board's Legal Cell is working under the Law Officer. The Legal Cell of Tea Board is attending all legal matters of the Board as and when referred to by the officers of Tea Board in Head Office/Regional Offices. The cell is also liaisons with the Board's empaneled Solicitors / Law Firms, legal consultants and Central Government Counsels on behalf of the Board. The number of cases pending as on 31.03.2022 was 117. During the year under review, 22 new cases arose and 16 cases were disposed of. As on 31.03.2023 the total number of pending cases was 123.