

**MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE STATE LEVEL SOCIETY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CESS UTILIZATION POLICY HELD ON 10TH SEPTEMBER 2021 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM, INDUSTRIES, COMMERCE AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES DEPARTMENT**

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Members Present: As per list enclosed as **Annexure-I**

The meeting was chaired by Dr. K. K. Dwivedi, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam, Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprises Department. He welcomed the Members present and item wise discussion on the agenda was taken up as under:

**Item No. 1: Confirmation of minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> State Level Society Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

The minutes of the last meeting were read out and confirmed.

**Item No. 2: Action Taken Report**

A report on the action taken on the decision of the last meeting of State Level Society was placed in the meeting.

- (i) It was unanimously decided to hold the State Level Society Meeting for Implementation of Cess Utilization Policy once in every quarter and in a regular monthly interval at Director level either in Guwahati or more preferably in any Tea Growing districts.
- (ii) It was decided to organize exposure visit of 10 representative of Small Tea Growers' covering representative of all area along with the Director of Tea. The visit shall cover exposure to mechanized harvesting methods in countries like Kenya, Sri Lanka, etc.
- (iii) The society suggested the formulation of an award scheme for best performing 5 (five) Small Tea Growers.

**Item No. 3: Audited Account of State Level Society**

State Level Society approved the audited accounts of last three years that is 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21.

**Item No. 4: Appraisal Note on Utilization of fund received under Cess Utilization Policy.**

The Director of Tea, Assam informed to the Society the year wise Cess Collection by the Government from Small Tea Growers. A total of Rs. 21575.58 lakh has been collected as cess from the 2009-10 to 2018-19.



Details of the expenditure made amounting to Rs.2693.74 lakh against the total fund of Rs.3247.69 lakh released to the districts, TRA and AAU was also placed in the meeting.

**Item No. 5: Approval of Guideline under Special Incentive for setup of Bought Leaf Tea Factory.**

A guideline for setting up of tea factories by small tea growers under Special Incentive is placed in the meeting. Small Tea Growers members present in the meeting demanded a greater number of factories in the small tea growers' sector to be set up under Special Incentive scheme. It is decided to circulate the guidelines to all districts immediately after necessary approval of the authority.

**Item No. 6: Implementation of the Scheme "Subsidy/ Grants/Assistance to the STGs in case of natural calamities like draught, epidemic outbreak affecting plants and human lives" under Cess Utilization (Amendment) Policy, 2017.**

The Chairman requested all the representatives of Small Tea Growers to inform all the regional and district committee for early submission of the list.

**Item No. 7: Finalization of beneficiary list for subsidy of green leaf carrying vehicle.**

The Chairman suggested to give a greater number of vehicles for the districts having a greater number of growers and from where maximum proposals are being received. Growers are in opinion that all districts may be consider for at least one number of vehicles. Accordingly, it is decided that vehicle to be distributed in proportion to the number of proposals received and based on the concentration give.

**Item No. 8: Approval for purchase of one vehicle for Director of Tea and other related expenditure viz., contractual driver and fuel, etc.**

Members present in the meeting convinced about the essentiality of a vehicle for Director of Tea. However, as per provision necessary approval is required from the Finance Department. Accordingly, it was decided and advised to submit official proposal for a vehicle.

**Item No. 9: Issuance of QR-coded registration card- a technological intervention for Small Tea Growers' sector of Assam for various facilities including green tea leaf transaction.**



It was decided to start the Baseline survey of all small tea growers of Assam at the earliest. All stakeholders' present in the meeting is desires transparency in the whole process from Greenleaf plucking till the sale of end product.

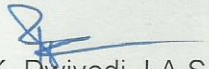
**Item No. 10: Finalization of audit fees for last three years and for coming years.**

It was decided that the Audit fees has been fixed @ Rs. 8000/- per year for last three years (2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21) and Rs.10,000/- per year from 2021-22 onwards.

**Item No. 11: Any other matters/ Other decisions:**

- (i) The Chairman encouraged the members of the Society to submit proposals for setting up of factories by the Small Tea Growers. AIDC will appraise the proposals submitted by the Small Tea Growers & BLF to assess the viability of the project.
- (ii) A Special Cell is to be constituted in the O/o Director of Tea for providing consultancy services to the Tea Growers for setting up of tea factories.
- (iii) Director of Tea is advised to collect the list of pending permission cases with Tea Board for setting up of Tea factories time to time and to apprise the chairman accordingly.
- (iv) Monthly Meeting is to be convened by the Director of Tea to address the issues of the Tea Growers at various tea growing areas. The expenditure required for the said meeting may be made from the administrative expenses fund under Cess Utilization Policy.
- (v) The Small Tea Growers Associations to verify the firms' claiming vehicles. The final list will be shared with the Associations for final verification.
- (vi) It was decided to convene a meeting with FSSAI at Principal Secretary Level to advise the Bought Leaf Factory Owners for ensuring strict check compliance of FSSAI regulations.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks from the Chair.

  
Dr. K.K. Dwivedi, I.A.S.  
Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprises Dept  
&  
Chairman,  
State Level Society for Implementation of  
Cess Utilization Policy

Copy to:

1. All the members present
2. P.S. to Hon'ble Minister, Industries and Commerce, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Minister.


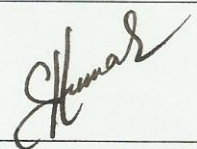

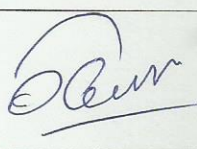

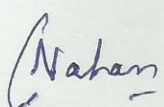

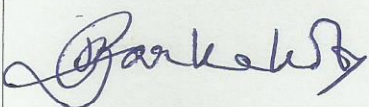
*Approved  
28/9/2021*

Ramen Lal Baishya,  
Director of Tea, Assam  
&  
Member Secretary,  
State Level Society for Implementation  
of  
Cess Utilization Policy



## MEMBERS PRESENT

**8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE STATE LEVEL SOCIETY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ESS  
UTILIZATION POLICY HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021 AT 10-00 AM IN THE OFFICE  
CHAMBER OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM, INDUSTRIES &  
COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, BLOCK - D, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR, DISPUR, GUWAHATI - 6.**

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Signature
1.	Sri K. K. Dwivedi, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Industries & Commerce Department	
2.	Sri Oinam Saran Kumar Singh, IAS, Commissioner of Industries & Commerce, Assam, Udyog Bhawan, Bamunimaidam	
3.	The Labour Commissioner, Gopinath Nagar, Guwahati	
4.	The Executive Director, Tea Board, N. E. Zonal office, Housefed Complex	
5.	Rajen Barua . President A.A.S.T.G.A.	
6.	Karuna Mahanta . G. S. A.A.S.T.G.A.	
7.	Rajib K. Gohin (Finance Secy) A.A.S.T.G.A.	
8.	Natayan Kahan . President, STGA, Assam	
9.	Jousrang Boro President, All Bodoland STGA.	
10.	Bidyamande Barakoley Adviser, NETA	

11.	Dr A K Barooah Director, TRA, Teokrai	<u>Amamb</u> 10/09/2021
12.	Kasturi Barahi Sec. IT. Secy, I&C Deptt.	<u>Janak</u> 10/9/21.
13.	K. L. Barishan IT. Div	<u>ML</u> 10/9/21
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