

# INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION



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ROYAL EXCHANGE  
6 NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD  
KOLKATA 700 001

Circular No.57 /2024-25

26<sup>th</sup> October, 2024

**TO: ALL MEMBER COMPANIES**

## **SOP: Mandatory 100% Sale of Dust Teas through Auctions for additional three months**

This is further to the Association's Circular No. 53/2024-25 dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 (copy enclosed) vide which members were informed about Tea Board's Order No. (29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/599 dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024 extending the applicability of sale of 100% dust teas through auctions for additional period of three months with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024.

Tea Board has now issued Circular No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/641 dated 24.10.2024 intimating that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) circulated by Tea Board vide Circular No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024 dated 22.04.2024 and revised subsequently vide e-mail dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 shall be followed for routing 100% Dust teas through auction during this additional period provided that:

- ✓ all Dust teas having Factory Gate Pass date from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 shall come under the purview of the exercise,
- ✓ any tea testing agency or laboratory not listed in the aforementioned SOP and wishes to participate in the tea testing process shall validate their credentials with the Association of Tea Auctioneers for empanelment,
- ✓ the test report for the drawn samples must be available before the auction of the specific tea, and
- ✓ teas failing to adhere to the parameters laid down by FSSAI shall be withdrawn from the auction before the date of sale under intimation to Tea Board by the auctioneers; the sellers of such teas shall contact Board for proper disposal of contaminated teas in accordance with the extant rules; it should be ensured that the non-compliant teas do not enter in the marketing channel.

A copy of the aforementioned Tea Board Circular dated 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 along with the referred SOP are attached for members' information.

**Arijit Raha**  
**Secretary General**  
Encl: As stated.

Copy to – All Regional Committees, ITA  
Export Promotion & Marketing Sub Committee  
All Branch and Zone Secretaries, ITA



टी बोर्ड भारत Tea Board India

14, बी.टी.एम सरनी (ब्रेबोर्न रोड) कोलकाता 700 001

14, B.T.M Sarani (Brabourne Road) Kolkata 700 001

[www.teaboard.gov.in](http://www.teaboard.gov.in)

Ref. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/64)

Dated 24.10.2024

**Circular**

**Subject:** Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for implementation of 100% dust tea auction for additional period of three months commencing from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024

Reference has been invited to the Order Ref. No.6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/599 dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024 (copy enclosed) issued by Tea Board regarding extension of the 100% Dust tea auction for additional period of three months. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) circulated vide Circular No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024 dated 22.04.2024 and revised subsequently vide e-mail dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 shall be followed for routing 100% Dust teas through auction during this additional period provided that -

- (a) all Dust teas having **Factory Gate Pass date** from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 shall come under the purview of the exercise,
- (b) any tea testing agency or laboratory not listed in the aforementioned SOP and wishes to participate in the tea testing process shall validate their credentials with the Association of Tea Auctioneers for empanelment,
- (c) the test report for the drawn samples must be available before the auction of the specific tea, and
- (d) teas failed to adhere to the parameters laid down by FSSAI shall be withdrawn from the auction before the date of sale under intimation to Tea Board by the auctioneers; the sellers of such teas shall contact Board for proper disposal of contaminated teas in accordance with the extant rules; it should be ensured that the non-compliant teas do not enter in the marketing channel.

This may be brought to the knowledge of all members of the respective Associations.

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Rajanigandha Seal Naskar)  
Controller of Licensing

Distribution: On overleaf

Distribution:

1. All Tea Producer Association	For information and circulation amongst their members
2. All Buyer Association	
3. All Exporter Association	
4. All Registered Auction Organiser	
5. Association of Tea Auctioneer (ATA)	
6. All Warehouse Association	
7. All Small Tea Grower Association	
8. Committee Members	For information
9. Executive Director, Coonoor & Guwahati	
10. DDTD, Siliguri	
11. System Analyst	For uploading in Board's website



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[www.teaboard.gov.in](http://www.teaboard.gov.in)

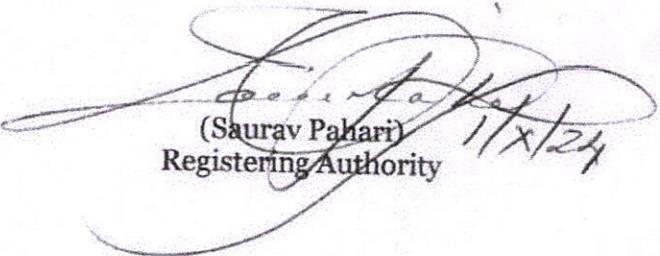
Ref. No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/599

Dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024

**Order**

**Subject: Auctions of 100% dust grade of tea-reg.**

In exercise of power conferred upon the Tea Board vide order S.O. 855(E) dated 23.02.2024 and in consultation with the Central Government, Tea Board hereby specifies that the provisions contained in paragraph 21(1) of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 shall remain applicable for additional period of three (03) months with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024.

  
(Saurav Pahari)  
Registering Authority

**Distribution:**

1. All Tea Producer Association
2. All Buyer Association
3. All Tea Exporter Association
4. All Registered Auction Organiser
5. Association of Tea Auctioneers (ATA)
6. M/s. NSEIT Ltd.
7. M/s. mjunction services limited
8. M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Ltd.
9. All Zonal/Regional offices of the Board

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Circular No. 53/2024-25

ROYAL EXCHANGE  
6 NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD  
KOLKATA 700 001

1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024

**TO: ALL MEMBER COMPANIES**

## **Extension of Mandatory 100% Sale of Dust Teas through Auctions for additional three months**

This is further to the Association's Circular No. 33/2024-25 dated 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2024 vide which members were informed about the Tea Board's Order dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 mandating sale of 100% dust teas through auctions upto 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

Members are informed that Tea Board has now issued Order No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/599 dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024 stating that in terms of Paragraph 21 (1) of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003, the sale of 100% dust teas through auctions would remain applicable for additional period of three months with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024.

A copy of the above referred Tea Board Order dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024 is attached for members' information.

**Arijit Raha**  
**Secretary General**

Encl: As stated.

Copy to – All Regional Committees, ITA  
Export Promotion & Marketing Sub Committee  
All Branch and Zone Secretaries, ITA



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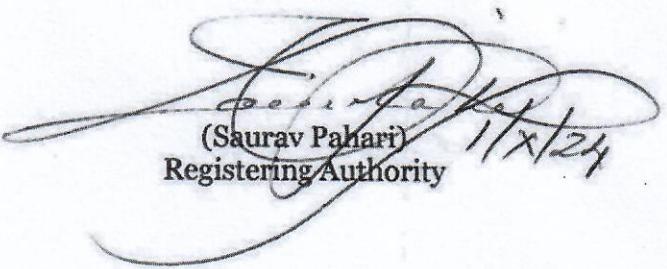
Ref. No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/599

Dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024

Order

**Subject: Auctions of 100% dust grade of tea-reg.**

In exercise of power conferred upon the Tea Board vide order S.O. 855(E) dated 23.02.2024 and in consultation with the Central Government, Tea Board hereby specifies that the provisions contained in paragraph 21(1) of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 shall remain applicable for additional period of three (03) months with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2024.

  
(Saurav Pahari) 11/10/24  
Registering Authority

Distribution:

1. All Tea Producer Association
2. All Buyer Association
3. All Tea Exporter Association
4. All Registered Auction Organiser
5. Association of Tea Auctioneers (ATA)
6. M/s. NSEIT Ltd.
7. M/s. mijunction services limited
8. M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Ltd.
9. All Zonal/Regional offices of the Board



Ref. No. 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024/

Dated 22.04.2024

Circular

**Subject: Sale of 100% dust grade of tea through auction**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Circular No.367 dated 08.03.2024 and subsequent interactive meeting held with the industry stakeholders on 19.03.2023 at Tea Board's Head Quarter, Kolkata under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Plantation) on the subject cited above. As discussed in the meeting, the Committee constituted for overall monitoring of the auctions of 100% dust grade of tea has been revised vide Order No.384 dated 01.04.2024 as under:

1. Smt Rajanigandha Seal Naskar, Controller of Licensing, Tea Board
2. Shri Hemant Bangur, Chairman, Indian Tea Association (ITA)
3. Shri Ajay Jalan, Member, Tea Association of India (TAI).
4. Shri Deboshyam Barua, Chairman, Assam Tea Planters Association (ATPA)
5. Shri Gautam Beria, Secretary, Assam Bought Leaf Tea Manufacturer's Association (ABLTMA)
6. Shri Mohit Agarwal, Director, Indian Tea Exporters Association (ITEA)
7. Shri Aurobinda Nayak, Honorary Secretary, Federation of All India Tea Traders Association (FAITTA)
8. Shri Gaurav Ghosh, Chairman, Association of Tea Auctioneers (ATA)

Shri Ajay Dhandharia, Chairman, North Eastern Tea Association had resigned from the Committee since 14.03.2024.

The Committee was mandated to frame standard operating procedures (SOP) aiming to resolve certain issues raised in the aforesaid meeting regarding implementation of 100% dust tea auction. Accordingly, the Committee has drafted and submitted the SOP to Board. In terms of paragraph 13 of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 and as directed by Ministry of Commerce & Industry vide letter No.K-57023/17/2023-PLANT-A dated 19.04.2024, the SOP is circulated herewith for compliance by all concerned in the matter of implementing 100% dust tea auction.

The content of this circular may be brought to the notice of all members under the jurisdiction of the respective associations.

This issues with the approval of Deputy Chairman.

Encl: As stated

*Naskar*

(Rajanigandha Seal Naskar)  
Controller of Licensing

Distribution:

1.	Additional Secretary (Plantation)	For kind perusal and information
2.	All Tea Producer Association	
3.	All Buyer Association	
4.	All Exporter Association	
5.	All Registered Auction Organiser	For information and circulation amongst their members
6.	Association of Tea Auctioneer (ATA)	
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8.	All Small Tea Grower Association	
9.	Committee Members	
10.	Executive Director, Coonoor & Guwahati	For information
11.	DDTD, Siliguri	
12.	System Analyst	For uploading in Board's website

## **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)**

1. The various Associations will conduct intensive outreach activities with the growers with immediate effect to handhold them for the requirements, and transition, for bringing 100% Dust Tea to Auctions. 100% Dust Tea through auction will be ensured for all teas having **Factory Gate pass date** from 1st May 2024 until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

2. Two times out lots may be withdrawn and sold in private channel if the sellers wish to.

3. Once within the 3 months period the samples will be tested through a Panel of Independent NABL accredited Laboratory who will also draw the samples from the auction warehouses. The cost for the testing will be borne by the sellers. FSSAI mandates the seller to test their product twice a year and record the result, and the first test will be in this account. The tests would be conducted for 59 chemicals as per the latest FSSAI Notifications. Labs where the teas can be tested may be from either of the below mentioned labs (NABL Accredited and Tea Board Approved):

- a) Eurofins
- b) Eureka Analytical Labs
- c) Intertek
- d) TUV SUD
- e) Tea Board's Own lab / Tlab

The process of random selection of marks and labs where it has to be tested, will be done by respective auction organisers, using AI and Algorithms, under the aegis of Tea Board. The brokers will help in creating the software and helping the auction organisers in this regards.

4. Catalogue closing time from the current practise of 19 days to be brought down to 17 days before the date of Sale to start with, and further making efforts to bring it down to 15 days. This will entail bringing of catch lot system, which must be followed by brokers. Cataloguing must start from the very second day of arrivals, so that sampling can start immediately and not wait for the full catalogue to close.

5. The lab after having received the List, should ensure visit to all auction warehouses immediately and draw two set of samples of 200 grams of each invoice. Lab should timely share the soft copy of all the results of the entire list of samples with the Tea Board, FSSAI and auction organizers well before the date of Auction, who will inform all concerned. Control (second set) sample will be sealed and signed and left with warehouse keepers, which the seller can use for appeal purposes if required.

6. The minimum lot size would be 20 Pkgs from June to October. However, division may be allowed above 30 packages. Buyers want the sale to be completed in 2 and half days, hence appropriate lot sizes may be notified. This will entail both rationalisation of sampling and adding benefit to sellers, as well as auctions being able to handle expected large volumes in forthcoming sales.

7. Siliguri 2 should be activated so that 2 windows operate at the same time, one for CTC Leaf and one for CTC Dust.

8. Directive to all registered buyers, packers and exporters to buy this category only from the auctions. Any violation both by sellers & buyers will entail penal action, including cancellation of license under the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 (TMCO, 2003).

**N.B.:** The procedure mentioned at Sl. No.6 & 7 above shall be implemented subject to change in the online auction portal within the scheduled time frame.



Indian Tea Association &lt;ita@indiatea.org&gt;

## Updated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

2 messages

**Samaresh Mondal** <mondalteaboard@gmail.com> Fri, May 31, 2024 at 1:46 PM  
 To: ITA <ita@indiatea.org>, Arijit Raha <arijit.raha@yahoo.co.in>, TEA ASSOCIATION Of India TAI <teaasso@rediffmail.com>, North Eastern Tea Association <neta\_assamtea@yahoo.com>, BCP Tea <bcptea2@gmail.com>, ABLTMA ASSAM <contactablma@gmail.com>, ATPA <assamteaplantersassociation@gmail.com>, TERAI Indian Planters Association <tipa1928@gmail.com>, North Bengal Tea Producers' Welfare Association <nbtpa.slg@hotmail.com>, Indian Tea Planters' Association <itpa444@gmail.com>, tai dooars <taidooars@gmail.com>, taiterainb@gmail.com, TEA ASSOCIATION Of India TAI <virgo\_658@yahoo.com>, taidooars2020@gmail.com, TEA ASSOCIATION OF INDIA TERAI OFFICE <taiterai@gmail.com>, dooarstea@yahoo.in, tbita@rediffmail.com, Nilgiri Bought Leaf <nilgiriboughtleaf@gmail.com>, nwtaassociation <nwtaassociation@gmail.com>, "UPASI TRF, DIRECTOR" <director@upasitearesearch.org>, Upasi <upasisectt@gmail.com>, Dinesh Bihani <dineshbihani11@gmail.com>, Faitta India <faitta.india@gmail.com>, manoj surana <mksurana@gmail.com>, TBA Cochin <tba.cochin@gmail.com>, southindiabuyers@gmail.com, "S.T.T.A" <stta2012@gmail.com>, Monojit DasGupta <monojit.55@gmail.com>, siteaexports <siteaexports@gmail.com>, i <i.t.e.a@hotmail.com>, Anshuman Kanoria <anshumankanoria@yahoo.com>, Deepak Bhattacharyya <deepak.bhattacharyya@mjunction.in>, Jaideep Kaushik Boruah <jaideep.boruah1@mjunction.in>, "coonoor tea trade, assn. coonoor" <secretaryctta@gmail.com>, TEASERVE ETAS <teaserve@gmail.com>, ttac cbe <ttac.cbe@gmail.com>, TEA TRADE ASSOCIATION OF Cochin <cochintta@gmail.com>, Teatrade Cochin <ttaccochin@gmail.com>, CTTA KOLKATA <ctta1886@gmail.com>, RADHA THAPA <slgteaauction@gmail.com>, Priyanuz Priyanuz <priyanuzdutta@assamteaxchange.com>, ata.auctea@gmail.com, "Unity Tea Warehousing Co." <unityteawh@gmail.com>, Sushil Berlia <sushilkumarberlia@gmail.com>, cista2007 <cista2007@gmail.com>, hb <hb@glosterjute.com>, mohit <mohit@asianteagroup.com>, ajay <ajay@mokalbaritea.in>, deboshyam barua <deboshyam\_barua@yahoo.com>, patkaai2016 <patkaai2016@gmail.com>, anayak <anayak@cilimited.in>, gaurav ghosh <gauravghosh@jthomas.in>, sandeep@dianatea.in  
 Cc: Saurav Pahari <dychairman.tbi@gov.in>, edteaboard2022 <edteaboard2022@gmail.com>, Arunita Phukan <arunita.p@gov.in>, Rajanigandha Seal Naskar <rsealnaskar.tbi@nic.in>, Kamal Chandra <kcbaishya.tbi@gov.in>, Subir Hazra <shazra.tbi@nic.in>

Sir(s)/Madam(s),

This is with reference to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued by Tea Board vide reference no 6(29)/LC/Auction/Dust Tea/2024 dated 22.04.2024 in respect of implementation of 100 % dust grade of tea auction. In this context, the following change has been made in the SOP.

1. The process of random selection of marks and laboratories shall be carried out by the Brokers in place of the Auction Organizer.

All other contents of the SOP dated 22.04.2024 shall remain unchanged.



**Regards:**

**Samaresh Mondal**  
**Asstt. Director of Tea Development**  
**Tea Board of India**  
**Ministry of Commerce & Industry**  
**Government of India**  
**Telephone no.033-22351331-Ext no-220**  
**E-Mail ID-** mondalteaboard@gmail.com

**चाय पियो मस्त जियो !**