

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION



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Circular No. 85 /2024- 25

ROYAL EXCHANGE
6 NETAJI SUBHAS ROAD
KOLKATA 700 001

29th January, 2025

TO: ALL MEMBER COMPANIES WITH INTERESTS IN WEST BENGAL

Commencement of Plucking / Manufacturing Operations in Season 2025 - West Bengal

This is further to the Association's Circular No. 26/204-25 dated 16th July 2024 informing members about the directive of Tea Board mandating the cut-off dates for closure of manufacturing operations in the Season 2024.

Members are hereby informed that Tea Board has now issued an Order viz. Order No. 12(17)/LC/2008/P-III/768 dated 29th January, 2025 with regard to **commencement of plucking /manufacturing operations in Season 2025**.

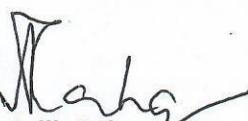
Details of the Order are as follows:

SI No.	Order No.	Details	Applicable Regions/States	Date of Implementation
1	12(17)/LC/2008/P-III/768 dated 29 th January, 2025	Starting date of plucking / receiving of green leaves for all tea factories for commencement of tea manufacturing in 2025	Dooars, Terai & Bihar	17 th February, 2025
			Darjeeling Hills & Sikkim	27 th February, 2025

Tea Board has stated that manufacturers adopting pruning / other cultivation practices other than traditional method as well as manufacturers of Orthodox, Green and Specialty teas may seek exemption from the respective office of Tea Board.

Members are advised to note the respective timelines and schedule their operations accordingly.

A copy of the Tea Board Order referred above is attached for members' information.


Arijit Raha
Secretary General

Encl: As stated

Copy to : Chairman, Vice Chairman and Addl. Vice Chairman, ITA
West Bengal Regional Committee, ITA
Darjeeling Regional Committee, ITA
Dooars Branch, Terai Branch and Darjeeling Branch, ITA



टी बोर्ड भारत Tea Board India
 14, बी.टी.एम सरनी (ब्रेबोर्न रोड) कोलकाता 700 001
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Ref. No.12(17)/LC/2008/P-III/ 768

Dated 29/01/2025

ORDER

- Whereas in exercise of powers conferred under clause 13(3) of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003, an Order Ref. No.12(17)/LC/2008/Part-III/502 dated 15th July, 2024 was issued by the Licensing & Registering Authority of Tea Board, inter alia, in respect of the last date of plucking/receiving of green tea leaves and its last date of processing by the tea manufacturing units in the region of North Bengal including Sikkim & Darjeeling Hills for the season ending November, 2024 for mandatory compliance by all the tea manufacturing unit.
- Whereas, plucking of tea leaf and manufacturing of tea will have to be commenced from the next cropping season in the year 2025 after the winter dormancy of the tea bushes is over and the tea bushes start producing tea leaf/sprouting buds afresh.
- Whereas, suggestions/feedbacks have been heard/received from the Industry stakeholder, scientific Institution for stipulating a suitable timeline of starting of the current cropping season's tea manufacturing in accordance with the natural cropping pattern of the tea bushes.
- Therefore, in continuation to the Order referred above in Sl. No.1, the following directives are hereby issued for mandatory compliance by all the tea manufacturers and producers of the Dooars, Terai, Bihar, Sikkim & Darjeeling Hills, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand regions:

Sl. No.	Details	Plantation Regions	Date of implementation
1	Commencement date of plucking/receiving of green leaves for all the tea factories for commencement of tea manufacturing for the year 2025.	Dooars, Terai & Bihar	17 th February 2025
2		Darjeeling Hills & Sikkim	27 th February 2025
3		Himachal Pradesh	7 th March 2025
4		Uttarakhand	7 th March 2025

- Gardens which have adopted pruning / other cultivation practices other than traditional method and except early crop / as well as manufacturers of orthodox, green and specialty teas, may seek exemption from respective office of the Board.
- Officers not below the rank of Assistant Director of Tea Development are authorized to recommend such exemption sought for, if any, to their Zonal/Regional Offices (Siliguri & Palampur) for issuance after due field verification. Exemption granted (if any) is to be intimated to the Head Office of the Board. While issuing such exemptions, the Officers shall take into account pruning practices, irrigation facilities, early rains which might lead to early flushing and flushing pattern.

Deputy Chairman, Tea Board &
 Licensing Authority

Distribution:

1.	All Tea Producer Associations of concerned region	For information and circulation amongst members for strict compliance
2.	All Bought Leaf Tea Producers Associations of concerned region	For circulation amongst all stakeholders and follow up for compliance of the order
3.	All Small Tea Growers Association of concerned region	For information
4.	All Regional/Sub-Regional offices of Tea Board Siliguri, Jalpaiguri and Palampur	For uploading in Board's website
5.	Director of Tea Development, Tea Board	
6.	System Analyst, Tea Board	