

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes of the **202nd** Meeting of the Council of Management held on 10th January 2024 at 11.00 p.m. in the Conference Room of Tea Research Association, Kolkata

Present	Ms N Palchoudhuri	-Chairperson, TRA
	Mr A Asthana	-Vice Chairman, TRA
	Dr Mahipal Singh	-Director (Research), Tea Board
	Mr P K Bezboruah	
	Mr Vikram Singh Gulia	
	Mr Rajvinder Singh	
	Mr Sparsh Agarwal	
	Mr J S Chahal	
	Mr S K Saria	
	Mr P C Dhandhanian	
	Mr B K Dalmia	
	Mr H C Malpani	
	Dr A Babu	-Director, TRA
	Mr J Phukan	-Secretary, TRA
	Mr A Mitra	-Financial Controller, TRA

The Chairperson welcomed the all members.

Release of the TRA Planters' Calendar 2024 & the Tocklai Newsletter

The Council released the 2024 calendar and the Tocklai newsletter

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

The Minutes of the 201st Meeting of the Council of Management held on 14th September was circulated and no comments have been received. Members confirmed the same.

2. Organizational Matters:

Mr Ashok Krishan have tendered his resignation from the post of the Addl. Vice Chairman and member of the Council in the month of November 2023. The Council sincerely appreciated his help and support in running the affairs of the Association.

The Council approved the nomination of alternate member Mr Suneel Sikand from Rossell Tea in addition to Mr J S Chahal.

3. Sensitisation workshops on food safety with FSSAI & Tea Board :

The Council was informed that the Association has written to the Tea Board of India to conduct sensitisation workshops in all tea areas in the month January and February 2024.

4. R & D Report:

The Director elaborated the highlights of the R&D work to the Council for the quarter October to December 2023.

Mr P C Dhandhanian Chairman Engineering & Manufacturing Committee informed the activities of the TPMA department. He informed that Mr Sanyal retired and the activities have been given to Dr A Hazarika. He also informed about the lateral flow rapid test equipment for pesticides testing by China.

Mr Rajvinder Singh highlighted the need for addition of new chemicals with MRL's. The existing list of chemicals are limited and sometime resistant to pests. It was informed that TRA has written to the Agriculture Ministry for clearance for 7 new compounds.

The Secretary TRA informed that the Association is in touch with the FSSAI and Agriculture Ministry to get the newer molecules cleared for the help of the industry.

5. **Membership & Finance:**

a) Membership Subscription : The membership subscription status of the Association as on 31st December 2023 is given as under:

Financial Status of the Association:2023-2024								
							2022-23	2023-24
Membership Subscription	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Till 31.12.2022	Till 31 .12.2023
							last year	Current year
A.Ordinary								
Billing	1574.4	1822.03	1842.89	1881.8	1898.48	1711.34	1289.44	1173.85
Collection	1300.68	1362.08	1376.21	1486.17	1404.16	1274.65	947.26	744.22
Rebate/Discunt	56.51	60.84	55.53	36.69	41.03	33.21	25.47	20.78
Net Recovery Total:	1357.19	1422.92	1431.74	1522.86	1445.19	1307.86	972.73	765
Arrear/Outstanding Recovery	100.28	116.97	220.31	237.7	122.44	199.42	155.56	105
Gross Total Collection:	1457.47	1539.89	1652.05	1760.56	1567.63	1507.28	1128.29	870
RECOVERY % WISE(CURRENT YR.)	86%	78%	78%	81%	76%	77%	75%	65%
OVER ALL RECOVERY % WISE	93%	85%	90%	94%	83%	88%	87%	74%
B. Associate								
Current	20.8	20.8	21.55	7.79	12.98	22.58	15.5	14.43
Arrear	5.63	9.78	10.25	9.16	9.82	8.05	6.65	11.43
Total:	26.43	30.58	31.8	16.95	22.8	30.63	22.15	25.86
GROSS TOTAL COLLECTION: (A+B)	1483.9	1570.47	1683.85	1777.51	1590.43	1537.91	1150.44	895.86
LESS: REBATE/DISCOUNT	56.51	60.84	55.53	36.69	41.03	33.21	25.47	20.78
NET TOTAL COLLECTION (A+B)	1427.39	1509.63	1628.32	1740.82	1549.4	1504.7	1124.97	875.08

The Secretary TRA informed the fund collection and stated that companies have not been paying due to prevailing market conditions.

b) **Financial Status of the Association:**

The Secretary stated that the Association has received an amount of Rs.7.90 crores from Tea Board upto December 2023. The current status of liability under major heads is given below:

Provident Fund..... Rs.207 lacs

Gratuity.....Rs.150 lacs

Leave Encashment..... Rs.340 lacs

6. **Valuation of major assets & properties of the Association:**

The Secretariat has done valuation of the major properties of the Association in the month of September and October through bank approved valuers. The gist of the valuation was circulated to the the Council for their perusal and records.

7. **To discuss on the arrangement of Bicentenary Assam Tea International Conference BATIC 2024 & the 25th session of FAO IGG on Tea.**

The Association is organising the 200th year of Assam tea in collaboration with Department of Commerce, Government of India, Government of Assam and Tea Board of India. The budget for the BATIC 2024 and the FAO IGG is enclosed as Annexure 2. The Secretary TRA elaborated on the up to date status alongwith the budget for both the events. The Council noted the same and approved the budget.

8. **Appointment of Trustee for The Tea Research Association Provident fund Trust**

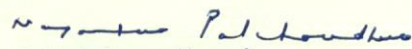
The Council resolved to appoint Ms Nayantara Palchoudhuri, Chairperson, TRA and Mr Atul Asthana, Vice -Chairman, TRA as Trustee of The Tea Research Association Provident Fund in place of outgoing Trustee Mr. D.P. Maheshwari and Mr. J S Kandal.

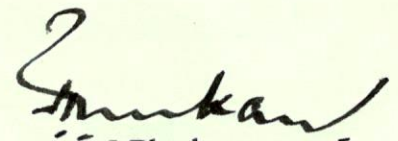
Further, both the new Trustees will be the signatories of the current bank account no. 38067257288 of the PF Trust maintained with SBI, N.S Road Branch in place of Mr. D.P. Maheshwari and Mr. J.S Kandal.

9. **Any Other Business:**

- a) Partnership with Tridge South Korea on profit sharing basis was discussed and approved.
- b) Chairperson informed on the new MOU's signed.
- c) The Council approved the removal of the name of Mr B.J.Chakraborty, Administrative Controller from all existing bank account of Tocklai, Jorhat. Further, Mr Jayanta Sharma, Accounts Officer, TTRI, was included as signatory for Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- d) The Council resolved to open a new project bank account in Union Bank of India, Jorhat Branch in the name of DST- Camellia-IDrone. This project is funded by DST through PFMS.

There being no other business the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


N Palchoudhuri
Chairperson


J Phukan
Secretary

Dated: 25th January 2024