

Workshop for tea industry on Pesticide residue

Tea Board Awareness Programme for North Bengal Tea Industry on Pesticide residues

Siliguri: Tea Board, India conducted one food safety awareness programme on pesticide residue in Quality Control Laboratory at Tea Park, Siliguri on 26th August, 2016.

The programme titled “Pesticide Residues in Tea- Issues and Concerns” was organized for the Tea Industry of North Bengal with an objective to create awareness among the stake holders about the regulations and usage of pesticides as envisaged in its ambitious Plant Protection Code (PPC) in order to maintain quality & food safety standards in tea.

It is to mention that Tea Board, India has launched a Policy document on usage of Pesticides in Tea Plantations of India called Plant Protection Code (PPC) with effect from January 2015. This code provides a comprehensive guideline for safe usage of pesticides in tea with an aim to achieve sustainability through Good Agricultural Practices and focus on responsible chemical management.

Officials from Tea Board, Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Tea Industry took part in the programme. While addressing the participants at the inaugural function, Director (Research), Dr. B. Bera emphasized on the effective

use of approved pesticides in tea so that human and environmental health could be protected.

The regulatory role of Tea Board in countering the pesticide residue problems in tea following PPC was discussed by Dr. A. Basu Majumder, Research Officer, Tea Board. Dr. A. Babu, Dy. Director, Tea Research Association (TRA), Nagrakata elaborated on the Integrated Pest Management in tea and the role of TRA in helping the industry for adoption of Integrated Pest Management. Importance of PPC compliance from Buyer’s point of view was highlighted by Dr. P. Jose David, General Manager (R&D), Tata Global Beverages Limited. Finally, Dr. D Kanungo, Chairperson of Scientific panel of Pesticide Residue Committee of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Govt. of India discussed on the Good Agriculture Practices in tea.

The overall programme got good response from the industry. Around 70 participants from various tea associations including Mr. S. Patra, Additional Secretary, Indian Tea Association (ITA), Mr. R. A Sharma, Secretary of Dooars Branch of Tea Association of India (TAI) participated in this programme.



Photographs of the Pesticide residue workshop at QCL, Tea Park, Siliguri