

PPC awareness program organized by Tea Board at Coonoor on 19th December, 2016

A Plant Protection Code (PPC) awareness program of pesticide residue in tea was organized by Tea Board at Coonoor on 19th December, 2016 to discuss the use of pesticides in tea and address the problem of presence of pesticide residue in tea.

Shri C. Paul Rasu, IAS, Executive Director, Tea Board Coonoor welcomed the participating planters, invited speakers, members of UPASI and officials of Tea Board. While inaugurating the PPC awareness programme, he mentioned about the importance of food safety and quality in tea in general and presence of pesticide residue in tea in particular. He also emphasized the need of organizing this type of workshop for the awareness of all stakeholders particularly the planters (both big growers and small tea growers).

Three presentations were made by Tea Board, Kolkata, FSSAI, New Delhi and UPASI, Coimbatore on different areas of regulatory issues relevant to tea industry as mentioned below.

1. Dr. B. Bera Director (Research), Tea Board, Kolkata presented on “ **Food safety and quality with special reference to pesticide residue in tea**”.
2. Dr. D. Kanungo, Chairman, Scientific panel on pesticides and antibiotics, FSSAI, New Delhi discussed on “ **Importance on MRL in tea crop** ”.
3. Dr. B. RadhaKrishnan, Director, UPASI-TRF, Coimbatore, presented on “ **Research on Pesticide Residue in South Indian tea industry**”.

Issues raised from the participating planters were on harmonization of standards for pesticides, iron filling and other regulatory parameters, updating of list of plant protection formulations in the latest version of PPC and use of bio-pesticide in tea plantation and its inclusion in the PPC list etc. All the speakers have interacted with the planters and responded to their queries. More than sixty (60) participants have attended the workshop which includes planters of South Indian tea plantation, members of UPASI and Tea Board officials.

The workshop ended with vote of thanks to the participants and the organizers.

Some of the photographs of the workshops are presented below

