



Public Notice

Kolkata

25.01.2019

Permission for plucking tender tea buds for making speciality teas (white teas)

With reference to the orders issued by the Competent Authority of the Board vide No. 12(71)/LC/2007/(Part-III)/11812, dated 31.10.2018 and no. 9(45)/DTD/2018 dated 19.12.2018 representations have been received from some tea estates requesting for permission to resume plucking of tea leaves earlier to the stipulated dates as stated in the order cited second, due to noticeable early sprouting of leaves in some sections of their estates.

In order to examine such requests a committee of technical experts comprising of Tea Board officers and scientists and officers from tea research institutes was constituted which upon inspection at some of the estates has not recommended for advancing the dates for resumption of plucking as the leaves present on the plucking table were not suitable for manufacturing quality teas as they were left over leaves and banjhis and were far below in fine leaf count than the stipulated norm.

However, keeping in view the reported sprouting of tender tea buds in scattered areas of some tea gardens which are of good quality, the Competent Authority has considered to permit plucking of such tender tea "buds" only for the purpose of production of speciality teas viz. white teas etc. which does not require operationalization of the tea factory or any of the equipment therein.

This permission is for the tea estates situated in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and would be granted subsequent to field verification inspections by officers of the Board and would also be monitored subsequently.

All other directives as stated in the order no. 9(45)/DTD/2018 dated 19.12.2018 remain the same.

Ref. no. 9(43)/DTD/2018