

## **A BRIEF REPORT ON THE MEETING HELD ON GREEN LEAF QUALITY -03.07.2019**

A meeting on Green leaf quality was held on the 03.07.2019 at the Premier Tea factory located very near to NETA office, Golaghat. Shri B. Agarwal, proprietor of the BLF unit, Tea Board officials ( ADTD &FAO) , Office bearers of All Assam Small Tea Growers Association ( AASTGA), Small Tea Growers' Council (STGC) , Green leaf suppliers/ Leaf Agents , STGs etc attended the meeting. In the meeting, opinions were taken from all sectors, for deterioration of green leaf quality and their advice / suggestions noted to improve green leaf quality.

The proprietor in his speech said that he has displayed his green leaf price on a Board based on green leaf quality but he lamented that no green leaf supplier demand highest price of GL i.e Rs25 for fine count % of 50-60%.

Shri Rajib Gohain, Finance Secy of AASTGA central unit urged all green leaf suppliers to take good quality green leaf only from STGS.

Shri Diganta Phukan , General Secy of STGC, urged all growers to stop sickle plucking. He opined that advance payment made by leaf agents to STGs is the main reason for deterioration of quality of green leaf. Some STGs use to supply very coarse leaf to agents in return of the advance money but he sells his good quality leaves in cash payment.

Green leaf agents also accepted that they are bound to take poor quality green leaf to recover their advance money paid to STGs.

Shri Achyut Baruah, Gen Secy of district unit of AASTGA said that green leaf quality will automatically improve if factories stop taking green leaf after 8 pm because poor quality leaves rejected by one factory are taken by another factory in the late evenings.

ADTD, Tea Board, Golaghat elaborated different guidelines / notices of Tea Board for improvement of green leaf quality as well as made tea . He also urged the factory proprietor to take record of green leaf fine count % of every supplier in a register on daily basis and to record return of vehicle number, supplying poor quality green leaves.

FAO , Golaghat gave a demo on QR Code registration process of STGs.

The proprietor of the BLF unit agreed to coordinate with Tea board while updating QR code registration of his 320 nos of STGs. supplying green leaf to the factory. He also assured to take fine count record of every supplier everyday and he would display the highest quality suppliers' name in a Board every day. All agreed to join hand to improve green leaf quality and regain the name & fame of Golaghat Tea.



