

Ref. No. 8(15)/TB/LC/RC-450/84/ 1087

Dated: Guwahati 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## ORDER

### SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION OF TEA MANUFACTURER, A/C. DEHA TEA ESTATE (RC-450) OF M/S DEHA ASSAM TEA CO. (PVT.) LTD.

Tea Board India had issued registration certificate bearing no. RC-450 to the tea manufacturing unit of M/s Deha Tea Estate (RC-450) owned by M/s Deha Assam Tea Co. (Private) Ltd. located at Jorhat – 785001, Assam under Para 3(4) of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order (TMCO) 2003, amended from time to time, for carrying out activities of manufacturing tea.

2. Whereas, the invoiced lots of tea produced by M/s Deha Tea Estate stored at M/s Laxmi Tea Warehousing Corporation warehouse was sold to buyer M/s Amar Tea through auction sale no. 16 having lot no. 79 was physically inspected by the team and samples were drawn from the stock of teas of invoiced lot no. C-7 manufactured by the above factory for the purpose of testing and the tea stock pertaining to the sample was also seized.
3. And whereas, the above made tea sample was sent to NABL accredited laboratory for testing to ascertain the compliance to the standard parameters for tea under Food Safety Standards Regulations, 2011 (FSSR) and the test reports received from the laboratory revealed that the sample tested have presence of *Monocrotophos* which is a insecticide which is not allowed to be used in tea as per the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011, in regulation 2.3, and sub-regulation 2.3.1 published in The Gazette of India (Extraordinary), Notification No. 537 dated 24<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Also *Monocrotophos* is a non approved Plant Protection Formulation as per Tea Board's Plant Protection Code. The copy of the test report was made available to you vide this office show cause letter dated 27.04.2023.
4. And whereas, vide the letter no. 8(15)/TB/LC/RC-450/84/56 dated 27.04.2023, you were being served with a show cause notice to explain/show cause as to why action for suspension/cancellation of registration of the factory as provided for under the Tea Act-1953, TMCO-2003 should not be initiated for the referred factory/ manufacturing unit for the stated anomalies/contraventions observed.
5. And whereas, the response received from you vide email dated 08.05.2023 was examined and was found to be not satisfactory and you were also given an opportunity to be heard through a personal hearing which was communicated to you vide a letter dated 01.12.2023. A personal hearing was undertaken on 24.01.2024 and the hearing was minuted and the minutes of the personal hearing was signed by the director of the firm who attended the hearing.

6. And whereas, it has been observed that you have failed in maintaining the quality as per prescribed standards for tea and you have submitted that your unit will take appropriate & effective steps & measures to prevent any such incident in future.
7. And whereas, based on the facts and material on record, it has been established that the factory was engaged in manufacturing of teas containing non approved plant protection formulations and considering such act as a serious offence, the registration of the above tea manufacturing unit has been considered to qualify for suspension/cancellation under the provisions of Para 5 of The Tea (Marketing) Control Order (TMCO).

Under the above facts and circumstances, the undersigned after having given opportunity to the company/manufacturing unit to present its views/side and being the Registering Authority, in exercise of powers conferred under Para 5, Sub-Para (1) of the TMCO 2003 and on the ground mentioned under Clause (c), (d), (e) & (f) thereof, hereby **order to suspend the registration i.e. RC-450** issued in favour of the tea manufacturing unit M/s Deha Tea Estate of M/s Deha Assam Tea Co. (Private) Ltd. located at Jorhat – 785001, Assam **for a period of 35 days** w.e.f. 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024 up to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

It may be noted that an appeal can be made against this order to the Central Government within a period of three months from the date of receipt of this Order as per Clause 24 of The Tea (Marketing) Control Order (TMCO).

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Executive Director, Tea Board &  
Registering Authority

To:  
M/s Deha Tea Estate,  
M/s Deha Assam Tea Co. (P) Ltd.,  
Jorhat – 785001, Assam  
E-mail: dehadib@yahoo.com

**Tea Board Reg. No. RC-450**

**Distribution:**

1.	Guwahati Tea Auction Centre	With the request not to deal with the teas manufactured by the above factory at your Auction Centre for such period or until further order and to bring this order to the notice of all concerned namely buyers , warehouses, Tea Brokers etc. for such compliances.
2.	The Calcutta Tea Trader Association, Kolkata, West Bengal	-do-
3.	The Siliguri Tea Auction Centre, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal	-do-
4.	The Deputy Chairman, Tea Board India, Kolkata	...for favour of kind information
5.	Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Labour Welfare Deptt. Dispur, Assam	...for favour of kind information

6.	Dr. Lakshmanan S., IAS Secretary to the Government of Assam Industries, Commerce & PE Department, Dispur, Assam	...for favour of kind information
7.	The Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat, Assam	...for favour of kind information
8.	The Superintendent of Police, Jorhat, Assam	...for favour of kind information
9.	The Secretary-cum-PF Commissioner, ATPPF & PF Scheme , Nidhi Bhawan, Guwahati Assam.	...for favour of kind information
10.	The Assam Gas Company Ltd; Duliajan, Assam	With the request to stop the supply of gas to the above mentioned unit for such period or until further order
11.	The Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd., Jorhat, Assam	With the request to stop the supply of electricity to the above mentioned unit for such period or until further order
12.	The Controller of Licensing, Tea Board India, Kolkata	...for information and necessary action.
13.	The Assistant Director of Tea Development, Tea Board India, RO, Jorhat, Assam	- for information and necessary action.
14.	M/s Deha Assam Tea Co. (Private) Ltd., Post Box No. 48, Dibrugarh – 786001, Assam.	- for information and necessary action.

  
Executive Director & Registering Authority