

Minutes of the District Level Awareness Committee meeting held on 16/07/2015
in the Conference Hall of the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat

The District Level Awareness Committee meeting of the Golaghat District was held on 16/07/2015 in the Conference Hall of the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat at 11:30AM which was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat and Chairman of the District Level Awareness Committee.

The meeting began with a welcome address from the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat to all the dignitaries who came from different Departments and Tea Estates and different organizations.

The chairman of the District Level Awareness Committee informed all members about constitution of the District Level Awareness Committee, Tea garden Level Prohibition Committee and Joint Working Group through the office Notification on 8/07/2015 and called upon all concerned members to discharge their responsibilities accordingly. The Chairman of the District Level Awareness Committee sought advice from all the members present regarding the role of the Tea garden Level Prohibition Committee and about its meeting of the same to be held in Tea Estates. The Managers responded positively and told that they would chalk out date & time and venue for holding the meeting of the Tea garden Level Prohibition Committee whether it is held Tea Garden-wise or Division-wise. He, especially, requested the tea garden managers to extend full co-operation to all the concerned members of Tea garden Level Prohibition Committee as the convener for holding periodical meeting in their respective tea gardens and look after the activities of the same.

The Medical Department, on being called upon by the Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat, presented a detailed slide-show regarding various problems of the tea workers including the health hazards created by unhealthy alcoholism of the workers. The Presentation also explained, inter alias, the perennial habit of drinking illicit liquor (Sulai) which are made available to them right from their adolescence stage.

The Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat called upon the managers of the Tea Estates to extend full co-operation to the Joint Workers Group in carrying out Excise raised in all possible ways.

Some Tea Gardens Managers raised complaint about inactivity of the Excise Department against illicit distillation and sale of liquor, especially some Managers from Bokakhat Sub-Division. They also pointed out about habitual offenders and not imposing any penalty against them.

The Excise Officers, however, told about the weak penalty provisions of the Assam Excise Act. 1910 for which such offenders dare to continue their illicit liquor distillations.

The Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat told that the State Government was going to amend the Assam Excise Act. 1910, which would require about 2/3 months time.

The Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Tea garden matters) supported by the Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Bokakhat pointed out to the provisions under the Indian Penal Code for filing FIR in the concerned Police Station against habitual offenders. The Manager of Chakiting Tea Estate spoke about the possible problems to be encountered by the management if such a measure is resorted to against tea workers.

The Excise Officers' call for destructions of containers of pesticides by the Tea Estate Managers was responded to positively by all Managers and they told that they have been taking all possible measure to check re-usage of such containers by the Tea workers.

Representatives from different Mother's Club of various Tea Gardens, Anganbadi workers spoke about the problem arising out unhealthy alcoholism in Tea gardens and came forward to co-operate with the garden level prohibition workers and to create awareness against such habits.

Mobile Phone Nos. of all the Inspectors of Excise of Golaghat District were also declared in the meeting which were noted down by the members present.

The Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat called upon the District Level Prohibition Organizer to speak about his plan for creating awareness against illicit liquor to which the Organizer said about displaying documentaries in the gardens periodically and extensive postering containing awareness messages against illicit liquor and its dangerous effects on human health etc.

The Deputy Commissioner, Golaghat told him to bring C.D's from the State Prohibition Council for the said documentary shows or distribution thereof.

At the end all members present unanimously decided to instruct the Tea Garden Level Prohibition Committee to adopt the following:-

1. The Tea Estate Managers, as convenor of the Tea Garden Level Prohibition Committee will fix the date, time and venue for holding the meeting of the Tea Garden Level Prohibition Committee Garden-wise or Division-wise.
2. The District Prohibition Organizer will provide C.Ds of documentaries and postering to the Tea garden to create awareness by the Tea Garden Level Prohibition Committee.
3. The members of the Tea Garden Level Prohibition Committee such as, Asha Workers, Anganbadi, local Head Master and Local Medical Officer etc. will do door to door awareness against unhealthy alcoholism headed by the concerned Labour Welfare Officer.
4. The concerned Inspectors of Excise will participate in such awareness programme as and when such programmed is arranged in the Tea Estate.
5. The Managers of the Tea Estates will extend full co-operation to the Excise Joint Working Group in carrying out raids against illicit distillations and sale of liquor in the Tea Garden.


The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all members presents.

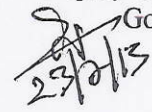

Deputy Commissioner,
Golaghat

Memo No. NO.:-GEX. 56/2015-2016/ 333
Copy to:-

Dated Golaghat the 22nd July /2015

1. The Commissioner of Excise, Assam, Housefed Complex, Beltola Basistha Road, Guwahati-6 for favour of information.
2. All members concerned.
3. DIO, NIC, Golaghat to upload in the website.


Deputy Commissioner,
Golaghat


23/7/15