

PREFACE

Once upon a time the poet Gladstone said, "If you are cold, Tea will warm you; If you are heated, it will cool you; If you are depressed, It will cheer you; If you are exited, It will calm you." Tea is one of the major industry in India. India is the world's largest producer of tha. India earn more than one thousand crores of rupees annually from the export of tea.

The foothills of Himalaya covering the districts of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri of West Bengal have come to occupy a significant position in the tea map of India. The tea growing areas in the district of Jalpaiguri with an annexation of a small tea area in Coach Behar is popularly known as Dooars.

Now-a-days tea gardens are mostly owned by the public limited companies and they want to extract money from the garden instead of investing for the development of tea gardens and workers. As a result production in some of the gardens decreased as well as the amenities supplied to the workers deteriorated. The quality and quantity of production depend on many factors such as physical conditions, management, quality of labour, socio-economic problem and so on. Now most of tea gardens and tea industry of the Banarhat and Nagrakata police station of Jalpaiguri district are facing such problems.

The area under tea gardens did not increase significantly and repainting could not be done for the last few years resulting in lower down the quality of bushes. Climates Labour and other restrictions imposed by the different agencies are reasons for lowering down the production as well as quality of tea in the area.