

Expression of Interest for Tocklai Division

26th March 2023

Tocklai Tea Research Institute of Tea Research Association has been running Tocklai Division of Cinnamara Tea Estate since 1977 . Total area of Tocklai Division is 140 ha and 119 ha is under tea plantations with 264 workers . Tocklai division is planted with very high quality clones developed by Tocklai and others. The leaf harvested has the rich character of Assam tea .

The Assam Tea Corporation Ltd (ATCL) as per MOU signed in May 2022 and their letter dated 27th September 2022 was supposed to take back the Tocklai division on the 1st January 2023, being the original owner of the estate. However ATCL has not taken back the garden and repeated reminders have been given to them.

Since the mandate of Tocklai Tea Research Institute is primarily on research, the Council of Management of the Association at its 199th meeting held on 24th March, 2023 have decided to lease/ jointly run the estate with interested organization, preferably member of the Association from April 2023 in the event of ATCL not taking back the estate.

The broad terms of the lease/ partnership are :

- 1) The successful bidder of the tender will take possession of the Tocklai Division as is, where is basis.
- 2) The successful bidder will pay all wages as fixed by industry-wide negotiation being effected from time to time.
- 3) The successful bidder will give rations or pay equivalent amount in time of ration as decided by industry-wide agreement.

- 4) The successful bidder will manage and run the Tocklai Division with the intention to develop the property in due course of time.
- 5) The successful bidder will exclude the technical campus area, seed baries measuring 23.99 ha and tea germplasm block for use of plucking which has been protected as a national tea germplasm plot by NBPGR.
- 6) The successful bidder will be responsible for the payment of all statutory dues such as PF, Gratuity and others to the workers from the time of taking over the estate.
- 7) The successful bidder will allow Tocklai Tea Research Institute to conduct research experiments as and when required after mutual consultation.
- 8) The terms of the lease/ joint management may be terminated on violation of the stated terms or in the event of ATCL taking back the estate.
- 9) The bidder should send their details of financial solvency and track record of managing tea estates in Assam to be evaluated by the Executive Committee of TRA .
- 10) All things equal, preference will be given to member of the TRA.
- 11) Successful bidder will be provided long term lease of the garden with the approval of ATCL.

Interested parties may send their offers in a sealed envelope addressed to The Director, Tocklai Tea Research Institute , Tea Research Association , Cinnamara , Jorhat 785008 latest by the 10th April 2023.

Director TRA

