

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
To The MEMBERS OF TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION  
Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

**Qualified Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Tea Research Association ("the Association"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31 March, 2024, and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section below, the aforesaid financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and other accounting principles generally accepted in India, of the state of affairs of the Association as at 31 March 2024, and its deficit for the year ended on that date.

**Basis for Qualified Opinion**

As referred in note no 1 of Schedule XXIII pending registration of deed of conveyance consequent to acquisition of entire activities of Tocklai Division of Cinnamara Tea Estate taken over by the Tea Research Association from Assam Tea Corporation Limited, no adjustments have been made in the books of the Association as regards fixed assets taken over, depreciation thereon and for transfers / damages of properties. Adjustments have also not been made for purchase consideration payable to Assam Tea Corporation Limited and consequently titles have not been transferred in respect of immovable properties taken over by the Association. The effect on the net assets position and the deficit for the year had the above adjustments been carried out is not ascertainable. The report was similarly modified by us in last year.

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by ICAI. Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements under the provisions of the Act and Rules made thereunder and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAI's Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion on the financial statements.

**Material uncertainty related to Going Concern**

We draw attention to Note 4 of Schedule XXIII to the financial statements, which explains that as of 31 March 2024, the Association has an accumulated deficit of Rs. 582,566 ('000) and as on that date, its current liabilities exceeded its current assets by Rs. Rs. 158,149 ('000). These events or conditions, along with other matters as set forth in the said note, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, and therefore it may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business within twelve months from the date of the audit report. However, the Association's Management has prepared these financial statements on going concern basis for the reasons stated in the said note.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

The Association's Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, income and expenditure of the Association in accordance with the Accounting Standards issued by ICAI and other accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding the assets of the Association and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and for such internal control as management determines is necessary for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charge with governance are also responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Materiality is the magnitude of misstatements in the financial statements that, individually or in aggregate, makes it probable that the economic decisions of a reasonably knowledgeable user of the financial statements may be influenced. We consider quantitative materiality and qualitative factors in (i) planning the scope of our audit work and in evaluating the results of our work; and (ii) to evaluate the effect of any identified misstatements in the financial statements.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

For **Deloitte Haskins & Sells**  
Chartered Accountants  
(Firm's Registration No. 302009E)

**Anirban Banerjee**  
Partner

(Membership No. 063176)

**UDIN: 24063176BKNQNV8971**

**Kolkata, 12 December 2024**

**Tea Research Association**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024**

Rs in '000

	Schedule	As at 31st March 2024	As at 31st March 2023
<b>Equities &amp; Liabilities</b>			
(1) Sources of Funds			
(a) General Fund	I	(5,82,566)	(5,60,600)
(b) Special Contribution Fund	II	55,909	55,967
(c) Capital Reserve	III	21	21
(d) TRA Centenary Fund	IIIA	98,105	1,02,588
(2) Project Grants from Tea Board and others	IV	27,199	20,854
(3) Non Current Liabilities			
(a) Long Term Borrowings	V	1,00,000	-
(b) Long Term Provisions	VI	1,98,097	2,08,810
(4) Current Liabilities			
(a) Short Term Borrowings	V	-	362
(b) Payables			
i) Total outstanding dues of MSME	VII	96,407	83,013
ii) Total Outstanding dues other than MSME	VIII	2,21,461	2,30,946
(c) Other Current Liabilities	VIII	2,21,461	2,30,946
(d) Short Term Provisions	VI	35,771	50,707
		<b>2,50,404</b>	<b>1,92,668</b>

**Assets**

(1) Non Current Assets			
(a) Property, Plant & Equipments	IX	50,980	57,748
(b) Loans and advances	X	2,817	2,009
(b) Other Non Current Assets	XI	1,117	1,113
(2) Current Assets			
(a) Inventories	XII	1,009	1,032
(b) Receivables	XIII	1,51,382	85,375
(c) Cash and Bank Balances	XIV	34,450	33,903
(d) Short-term loans and advances	XV	8,649	11,488
		<b>2,50,404</b>	<b>1,92,668</b>

Material Accounting Policies  
Notes on Accounts

XXII  
XXIII

The Schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Financial Statements

In terms of our report attached

**For Deloitte Haskins & Sells**  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm's Registration Number: 302009E

**For and on behalf of Tea Research Association**



**Joydeep Phukan**  
Secretary

**N. Palchoudhuri**  
Chairperson

Place: Kolkata  
Date: 12.12.2024



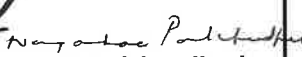
Place: Kolkata  
Date: 12.12.2024

  
**Anirban Banerjee**  
Partner

(Membership No.063176)

Place: Kolkata  
Date: 12.12.2024



Tea Research Association			
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2024			
		Rs in '000	
	Schedule	For the year ended 31st March 2024	For the year ended 31st March 2023
<b>INCOME</b>			
(I) Revenue From Operations	XVI	2,85,508	2,97,579
(II) Other Income	XVII	1,09,186	65,761
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>3,94,694</u>	<u>3,63,340</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
(I) Employee Benefit Expense	XVIII	2,82,430	2,87,566
(II) Depreciation and Amortization	IX	2,844	3,320
(III) Finance Cost	XIX	1,066	1,095
(IV) Net deficit on Experimental Estates	XX	32,825	32,308
(V) Other Expenses	XXI	97,495	1,33,621
<b>Total Expense</b>		<u>4,16,660</u>	<u>4,57,910</u>
Deficit carried to Balance Sheet		<u>(21,966)</u>	<u>(94,570)</u>
Material Accounting Policies	XXII		
Notes on Accounts	XXIII		
The Schedules referred to above form an Integral part of the Financial statements			
In terms of our report attached			
<b>For Deloitte Haskins &amp; Sells</b> Chartered Accountants Firm's Registration Number: 302009E		<b>For and on behalf of Tea Research Association</b>  Joydeep Phukan Secretary	
 Anirban Banerjee Partner (Membership No.063176) Place: Kolkata Date: 12.12.2024		 N. Palchoudhuri Chairperson Place: Kolkata Date: 12.12.2024	



## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	As at 31st March 2024	As at 31st March 2023
<b>SCHEDULE-I</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
Balance as per last Account	(5,60,600)	(4,66,030)
Add:- Deficit for the year	(21,966)	(94,570)
	<u>(5,82,566)</u>	<u>(5,60,600)</u>
<b>SCHEDULE-II</b>		
<b>Special Contribution Fund</b>		
Balance as per last Account	55,967	56,032
Less:- Depreciation on Property, Plant & equipment acquired for research	3	4
Depreciation on Property, Plant & Equipment acquired for Tocklal complex	55	61
	58	65
	<u>55,909</u>	<u>55,967</u>
Refer Schedule-IX for capital expenditure out of Special Contribution Fund.		
<b>SCHEDULE-III</b>		
<b>Capital Reserve</b>		
Assessed value of land acquired by gift	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>
<b>SCHEDULE-III A</b>		
<b>TRA CENTENARY FUND</b>		
Fund as per last Account	1,02,588	1,07,702
Less:- Accumulated Expenditure on TRA Centenary Fund	1,48,510	1,48,510
Less: Transferred to Property, Plant & Equipment	1,48,510	1,48,510
Less:- Depreciation on Property, Plant & Equipment acquired	4,483	5,114
	<u>98,105</u>	<u>1,02,588</u>

Refer Schedule -IX for capital expenditure out of special centenary grant sanctioned by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.



## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rs in '000

**SCHEDULE- IV****As at 31st March  
2024****As at 31st March  
2023****Project Grants from Tea Board and others**

Balance as per last Account	20,854	76,613
Received during the year * #	38,580	(4,527)
Add: Interest on Savings Bank Account earned / (refunded)* ##	(128)	452
	59,306	72,538
Less: Expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment Acquired *	5,849	23,641
Expenditure on Projects *	26,258	28,043
	32,107	51,684
	<u>27,199</u>	<u>20,854</u>

\* Refer Schedule IVA for Project wise details.

# Grant received during the year aggregating to Rs 38,578 ('000) (previous year Rs 17,900 ('000) is net of refund made amounting to Rs 773 ('000) (Previous year Rs 22,429 ('000)), which includes refunds made for closed project is Rs 16,629 ('000) (Previous year Rs Nil)

## Interest received during the year aggregate to Rs 90 ('000) (Previous year Rs 497 ('000) is net of refund made amounting to Rs 220 ('000) (Previous year Rs 44 ('000)), which includes refund for closed project amounting to Rs NIL (Previous year Rs NIL).





SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS							Rs in '000
SCHEDULE- IVA							
SUMMARY OF EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS AS ON 31.03.2024							
Project Title	Grant received till 31st March'2023(including Interest)	Grant Received / (refunded) during the Year 23-24	Interest Earned / (refunded) during the Year 23-24	Accumulated Recurring Expenses	Accumulated Non-Recurring Expenses	Closing Balance as on 31st March, 2024	
<b>RUNNING PROJECTS</b>							
<b>NTRF PROJECTS</b>							
NTRF- DEVELOPMENT OF BIORATIONAL AND NON CHEM BASED IPM (TTRI)	3,340	738	8	3,970	194	-78	
NTRF- NANO BOTANICAL BIOPESTICIDES (TTRI)	617	617	-	749	-	485	
NTRF- NICOTINE PROJECT (TTRI)	587	587	-	884	-	290	
NTRF - VFC PROJECT (KOLKATA)	-	2,480	-	-	-	2,480	
NTRF EVALUATION OF RNA INTERFERENCE (TTRI)	-	1,176	-	-	-	1,176	
NTRF IN VIRTU INSECT CELL LINE (TTRI)	-	1,586	-	-	-	1,586	
NTRF-ISOLATION AND MOLECULAR CHARACTERIZATION (TTRI)	-	576	-	-	-	576	
<b>DBT PROJECTS:</b>							
DBT UNDERSTANDING THE MACHANISM (TTRI)	3,426			1,860	1,533	33	
DBT DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE AGRIL. PRACTICE FOR BIOTIC & ABIOTIC(NBRRDC)#	1,567	494	(11)	1,568	400	82	
DBT SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF TEA WASTE (NBRRDC)#	3,823	458	(33)	1,671	2,292	285	
DBT ISOLATION,IDENTIFICATION AND SYNTHESIS OF PHEROMONES (TTRI)	1,798	1,012	-	2,772	38	-	
DBT MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL APPROACH ON DEVP. OF TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN BIO-INPUT PRODUCTION (TTRI)#	843	1,603	(3)	1,495	948	-	
DBT VALUE ADDITION AND PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION (TTRI)	9,558	2,070	-	3,628	8,000	-	
DBT GERMPLASM CHARACTERIZATION,GENOMICS ANALYSIS (TTRI)	2,914	2,092	-	3,607	1,400	-	
DBT ESTABLISHING EFFICIENT PLATEFORM FOR GENETIC ENGINEERING (TTRI)	1,874	1,149	-	2,233	789	-	
DBT DEVP. OF SUSTAINABLE AGRIL. PRACTICE FOR BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC (TTRI)	5,010	2,930	-	5,310	2,631	-	
DBT- BIOTECH KISSAN (NBRRDC)#	507	-	(5)	499	-	3	
<b>DST PROJECTS:</b>							
DST SERB ENRICHMENT OF CARBON POOL IN TEA SOILS (NBRRDC)	1,267	650	(9)	1,235	1,031	-358	
DST SERB UNREVEALING INTERACTION (NBRRDC)	1,434	867	4	1,974	456	-124	
DST-CCP- TASK FORCE ON HIMALAYAN AGRICULTURE- NMSHE (PHASE II)	613	658	10	1,075	-	206	
DST- CAMELLIA- I DRONE (TTRI)	-	1,806	-	529	-	1,277	
<b>OTHER PROJECTS:</b>							
TEA DUS CENTRE (TTRI)	3,145	714	7	3,554	-	312	
IPI- Polysulphate (Poly halite) TTRI	2,024	1,030	9	2,691	-	372	
TRA CLONAL SCREENING MINI FACTORY PROJECT (NBRRDC)	2,724	120	2	-	4,043	-1,197	
AJOY BIOTECH - EPN BASED BIOFIGHTER FORMULATION (TTRI)	1,235	1,335	5	1,824	-	750	
BPCL EVALUATION OF "MAK ADIUVOL" (TTRI)	1,875	1,293	13	2,416	-	765	
ORGANIC TEA RESEARCH HUB AT TTRI, JORHAT (GOVT OF ASSAM)*	8,148	(773)	-139	7,227	-	9	
TWINNING PROJECT (UA)	4,287	-	1	4,232	48	7	
GODREJ AGROVAT PROJECT (NBRRDC)	593	593	-	477	-	709	
NANO UREA PROJECT (NBRRDC)	155	103	-	190	-	68	
CDAC TULIP PROJECT (TTRI)	6,538	865	(19)	2,142	5,190	52	
GOA-INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OF PRESERVING THE INVALUABLE REPOSITORY OF INSECT COLLECTION	-	1,956	-	-	1,945	11	
ICAR- MONITORING OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES AT NATIONAL LEVEL (MPRNL) TTRI	-	2,250	-	2,239	-	11	
PRASARI- TRADICRAFT (NBRRDC)	-	1,531	-	-	-	1,531	
SERB- NATIONAL POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (NPDF) - TTRI	-	670	-	-	-	670	
SILK BOARD- STD.OF PROCESSING AND PROD. OF BEVERAGES (TTRI)	1,513	-	-	1,129	371	13	
UPL- SUSTAINABLE AGRI SOLUTION (TTRI)	-	3,344	-	1,615	-	1,729	
<b>TOTAL RUNNING PROJECTS (A) :-</b>	<b>71,415</b>	<b>38,580</b>	<b>(160)</b>	<b>64,795</b>	<b>31,309</b>	<b>13,731</b>	
<b>CLOSED PROJECTS</b>							
<b>TOTAL CLOSED PROJECTS (B) :-</b>	<b>2,99,638</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>97,969</b>	<b>1,86,233</b>	<b>13,468</b>	
<b>Grand Total (A+B) :-</b>	<b>3,71,053</b>	<b>38,580</b>	<b>(128)</b>	<b>1,62,764</b>	<b>2,19,542</b>	<b>27,199</b>	
<b>Previous Year Total :-</b>	<b>3,75,130</b>	<b>(4,527)</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>1,36,506</b>	<b>2,13,693</b>	<b>20,854</b>	
# In respect of certain project of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) the Association has returned the entire unspent balance against projects under Implementation to the Central Nodal Agency (CINA) account as per office memorandum no. DST/PRAO/TSA/01/2022 dated 23 September 2022.							
* In respect of Organic Tea Research Hub in Tocklai, Assam, the unspent amount has been refunded to the Government as per sanction no. FS/IND_2021-22(i)_259 dated 2 March 2022.							





## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	As at 31st March 2024	As at 31st March 2024	As at 31st March 2023	Rs in '000 As at 31st March 2023
<b>SCHEDULE-V</b>				
<b>Borrowings</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Non Current</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Non Current</b>
<b>Secured</b>				
Car Loan from Yes Bank	-	-	362	-
<b>Unsecured</b>				
Interest free Soft loan from Government of Assam*	-	1,00,000	-	-
	-	1,00,000	362	-

\*Represents interest free soft loan from Government of Assam received in October 2023, repayable after moratorium period of not less than 5 years.

**SCHEDULE-VI**

<b>Provisions</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Non Current</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Non Current</b>
Provision for Gratuity*	23,671	1,16,016	30,255	1,25,954
Provislon for Leave Encashment#	12,100	82,081	20,452	82,856
	35,771	1,98,097	50,707	2,08,810

\* Includes provision for gratuity for garden workers at the two experimental estates amounting to Rs 21,977 ('000) (Previous year Rs 25,051 ('000)).

# Includes provision for leave encashment for garden workers at the two experimental estates amounting to Rs 1,025 ('000) (Previous year Rs.1,040 ('000)).



## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	As at 31st March 2024	Rs in '000 As at 31st March 2023
<b>SCHEDULE-VII</b>		
<b>Trade Payables</b>		
(i) Total Outstanding dues of MSME (Refer note 6)	491	-
(ii) Total Outstanding dues other than MSME	95,916	83,013
	<b>96,407</b>	<b>83,013</b>
<b>SCHEDULE-VIII</b>		
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
Statutory Liabilities	74,998	57,412
Employee related liabilities*	56,757	57,345
Liability for retired employees	89,706	1,16,189
	<b>2,21,461</b>	<b>2,30,946</b>

\* Includes

(a) 6th Pay commission arrear liability of Rs. 5,935 '000) (Previous year Rs.5,935 ('000))

(b) 7th Pay commission arrear liability of Rs. 10,620 ('000) (Previous year Rs 10,945 ('000))



Tea Research Association									
SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS									
Rs in '000									
SCHEDULE IX Property Plant & Equipments									
PARTICULARS	COST			DEPRECIATION			NET BLOCK		
	Balance as on 01.04.23	Addition during the year	Disposal during the year	Balance as on 31.03.24	For the year	Disposal during the year	Balance as on 31.03.24	Balance as on 31.03.23	Balance as on 31.03.23
Land (Note 1)	619	-	-	619	-	-	619	619	619
Building (Free Hold) (Note 2)	1,59,440	-	-	1,59,440	3,808	-	1,25,168	34,272	38,080
Equipment and Machinery	81,733	673	-	82,406	2,270	-	73,324	9,082	10,679
Electric, Water and Telephone	38,393	20	-	38,413	620	-	35,933	2,480	3,080
Furniture and Fittings	15,161	-	-	15,162	356	-	11,958	3,204	3,559
Vehicle (Note 3)	14,375	-	2,061	12,314	331	1,984	10,991	1,323	1,731
Total	3,09,721	693	2,061	3,08,354	7,385	1,984	2,57,374	50,980	57,748
Previous Year	3,07,664	2,057	-	3,09,721	8,499	-	2,51,973	57,748	64,190

#### Note

- Land includes 16.44 acres acquired by the Association by way of gift. The value of such land is assessed by the Association at Rs. 21 ('000).
- (A) Freehold Building include property of Rs. 2,047 ('000) (Previous year Rs.2,047 ('000)) on leasehold land.
- (B) Also refer to notes 1,2 and 3 of Schedule XXII
- Gross Book value includes value of fixed assets acquired out of Special Contribution Fund

31.03.2024 31.03.2023

	(Rs)	(Rs)
Building (Free Hold)	10,364	10,364
Equipment and Machinery	4,378	4,378
Furniture and Fittings	90	90
Vehicle	34	34
Total	14,866	14,866

- Gross Book value includes value of fixed assets acquired out of Centenary Fund

	(Rs)	(Rs)
Building (Free Hold)	1,03,001	1,03,001
Electric, Water and Telephone	15,784	15,784
Furniture and Fittings	6,298	6,298
Equipment and Machinery	23,427	23,427
Total	1,48,510	1,48,510

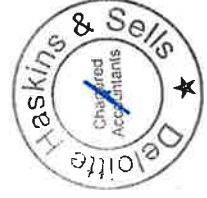
#### 5. Depreciation Details

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
Depreciation	(Rs) 7,385	(Rs) 8,499

Less: Transferred to Funds

Special Contribution Fund (Schedule II)

- For Research	3	4
- For Tocklai	55	61
TRA Centenary (Schedule IIIA)	4,483	5,114
Depreciation as per Income & Expenditure Account	2,844	3,320



## Tea Research Association

## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rs in '000

As at 31st March  
2024As at 31st March  
2023**SCHEDULE-X****Loans and advances**

Tax Deducted at source	2,817	2,009
	<u>2,817</u>	<u>2,009</u>

**SCHEDULE-XI****Other Non Current Assets**

Deposits (Considered good)	1,076	1,076
Interest Accrued on Fixed Deposit	41	37
	<u>1,117</u>	<u>1,113</u>

**SCHEDULE-XII****Inventories**

(at lower of cost and net realisable value)

Publication	885	913
Foodstuff	4	6
Diesel	120	113
	<u>1,009</u>	<u>1,032</u>

**SCHEDULE-XIII**

(Unsecured)

Considered good

(i) Less than 6 Months	52,929	30,980
(ii) More than 6 Months	98,453	54,395
Considered doubtful	<u>1,23,540</u>	<u>1,60,176</u>
	2,74,922	2,45,551
Less:- Provision for doubtful receivables	<u>1,23,540</u>	<u>1,60,176</u>
	<u>1,51,382</u>	<u>85,375</u>
	<u>1,51,382</u>	<u>85,375</u>

**SCHEDULE-XIV****Cash and Bank Balances**

Cash on Hand	222	96
Cash at Bank		
- on Current Account (Notes 1 and 2) below	24,582	14,279
- on Savings Account	<u>8,989</u>	<u>18,928</u>
Sub-total(a)	33,793	33,303
Other Bank Balances		
-Fixed Deposit	<u>657</u>	<u>600</u>
Sub-total(b)	<u>657</u>	<u>600</u>
Total (a+b)	<u>34,450</u>	<u>33,903</u>

Note 1: Includes Rs 73 ('000) (Previous year Rs.73 ('000)) which can be utilised only after obtaining approval from Tea Board

Note 2: Includes Rs 10,485 ('000) (Previous year Rs. 6974 ('000) in respect of running projects and Rs 1,148 ('000) (Previous year Rs 1,557 ('000)) in respect of projects closed.

**SCHEDULE-XV****Short-term loans and advances**

Advances recoverable in cash or in kind or for value to be received	5,449	9,026
Prepaid Expenses	<u>3,200</u>	<u>2,462</u>
	<u>8,649</u>	<u>11,488</u>



## SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	For the year ended 31st March 2024	Rs in '000 For the year ended 31st March 2023
<b>SCHEDULE-XVI</b>		
<b>Revenue From Operations</b>		
Ordinary Membership	1,51,378	1,71,310
Associate Membership	3,898	2,433
Grant in aid from Tea Board	<u>1,30,232</u>	<u>1,23,836</u>
	<u>2,85,508</u>	<u>2,97,579</u>
<b>SCHEDULE-XVII</b>		
<b>Other Income</b>		
Sale of Green leaf from Experimental Plots (Other than	2,847	2,817
Sale of Plants	-	2
Sale of Clones	43	93
Sale of Seeds	284	90
Sale of Publication	282	317
Sale of Trichoderma	9,968	9,091
Advisory Service fees	284	90
Testing Fees	28,722	24,465
Training Fees	6,694	4,914
House Rent	1,079	539
Profit on sale of Property Plant & Equipment	218	-
Sundry Receipts	7,429	3,350
Royalty	605	714
Sundry credit balance/ Liability no longer required written back*	5,247	8,327
Provision for doubtful debt written back	44,467	10,010
Recovery from doubtful subscription	558	471
Interest on other deposit	35	2
Interest on Fixed Deposits(Gross)	32	24
Interest on Savings Account(Gross)	<u>392</u>	<u>445</u>
	<u>1,09,186</u>	<u>65,761</u>

\* Includes write-back of employee related liabilities amounting to Rs 989 ('000) subject to the approval of the Finance Committee of the Council of Management (Previous year Rs. 2,756)



## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rs in '000

For the year ended  
31st March  
2024For the year ended  
31st March  
2023**SCHEDULE-XVIII****Employee Benefit Expenses**

Salary, wages and bonus	2,28,056	2,34,589
Contribution to Provident and other funds	15,696	16,072
Gratuity (Note-1)	18,512	12,892
Leave Encashment (Note-2)	13,637	16,357
Welfare and training expenses	1,149	1,364
Medical expenses	5,380	6,292
	<u>2,82,430</u>	<u>2,87,566</u>

**SCHEDULE-XIX****Finance Cost**

Interest on Car loan	14	56
Interest on Provident Fund Loan	<u>1,052</u>	<u>1,039</u>
	<u>1,066</u>	<u>1,095</u>

Note-1 Net off provision for gratuity of Rs 13448 (Rs '000) written back (Previous year Rs 6,441 (Rs '000))

Note-2 Net off provision for leave encashment of Rs 9,112 (Rs '000) written back (Previous year Provision for leave encashment Rs 4,688 (Rs '000))





## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rs in '000

	For the year ended 31st March 2024	For the year ended 31st March 2023
<b>SCHEDULE-XX</b>		
<b>Expenses on Experimental Estates</b>		
Salary, Wages and Bonus	34,526	31,630
Contribution to Provident and other funds	4,022	3,648
Gratuity (Note-2)	760	4,598
Leave Encashment (Note-3)	-	146
Welfare and training expenses	2,659	2,322
Medical Expenses	68	53
Consumption of stores and Chemicals	29	119
Power and Fuel	158	304
Repairs and Renewals	3	14
Printing, Stationery and Publication	6	10
Insurance	14	13
Provision for Doubtful Debts	2,456	-
Miscellaneous	303	938
Sub-total (a)	45,004	43,795
<b>Income from Experimental Estates</b>		
Sale of green leaf (At Tocklal)	8,837	9,549
Sale of Clones	27	21
Sale of Seeds	186	122
Sale of Plants	-	12
Sale of made Tea	-	723
Miscellaneous Receipts (Note-1)	3,129	1,060
Sub-total (b)	12,179	11,487
Excess of Expenditure over Income on experimental estates (a-b)	32,825	32,308

Note-1 Include excess provision of gratuity of Rs 3,074 (Rs '000) and Leave encashment of Rs 15 ('000) no longer required

Note-2 Includes provision for Gratuity of Rs. 2,982 (Rs '000) pertaining to previous year

Note-3 Includes provision for leave encashment of Rs.146 (Rs '000) pertaining to previous year



## SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rs in '000

For the year  
ended 31st  
March  
2024

For the year  
ended 31st  
March  
2023

**SCHEDULE-XXI****Other Expenses**

Consumption of stores & chemicals	6,888	5,587
Power and fuel	11,126	10,858
Repairs and renewals	5,048	4,764
General maintenance	2,436	2,222
Printing & Stationery	1,299	926
Postage & Communication Expenses	803	884
Travelling and Conveyance	4,609	2,929
Professional Charges	2,642	2,447
Audit fees and Expenses	944	944
Insurance	1,202	1,510
ASC Seminar etc	626	68
Patent fees and Expenses	12	64
Council & Other meeting Expenses	998	731
Rent, Rates and Taxes	698	863
Books and Periodicals	38	68
Provision for Doubtful Debts	5,933	82,512
Bad debts written off*	44,536	10,010
Assets/Inventory written off	-	121
Rebate on timely collection of subscription	2,745	3,225
Excess expenditure over grants transferred from closed projects	3,438	801
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,474	2,087
	<u>97,495</u>	<u>1,33,621</u>

\*Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee of the Council of Management



## **SCHEDULE - XXII**

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2024**

#### **1. Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention on accrual basis as a going concern with revenues recognized and expenses accounted on their accrual and comply with applicable Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India ('ICAI'), to the extent applicable and in the manner so required. The accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are same those followed in the previous year.

All assets and liabilities have been classified as current or non-current as per the Association's normal operating cycle. Based on the nature of activities of the Association and the normal time between acquisition of assets and their realisation in cash or cash equivalents, the Association has determined its operating cycle as 12 months for the purpose of classification of its assets and liabilities as current and non-current.

#### **2. Property Plant and Equipment**

Property Plant and Equipment are carried at cost less depreciation. Cost includes inward freight, duties and taxes and expenses incidental to acquisition and installation of Property Plant and Equipment.

##### **Property Plant and Equipment of Projects**

The Property Plant and Equipment as referred in Schedule-IV acquired out of grants from other agencies, the ownership of which do not vest with the Association are not capitalized.

#### **3. Depreciation**

Depreciation on own Property Plant and Equipment is provided on written down value method at the rates mentioned below. Full year's depreciation is provided on additions to Property Plant and Equipment during the year. No depreciation is provided on Property Plant and Equipment sold during the year. No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

Freehold Building	: 10%
Equipment and Machinery	: 20%
Electric, Water and Telephone	: 20%
Furniture and Fittings	: 10%
Vehicles	: 20%

#### **4. Inventories**

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value, where costs are ascertained on FIFO basis.

Slow moving, obsolete and damaged stocks are identified at the time of physical verification of stocks and if necessary, provision is made for such stocks.

#### **5. Government Grants**

Grants in the nature of contribution received towards specific purposes, and no repayment of which is ordinarily expected, are treated as specific reserves. Grants that relate to capital expenditure are recognised as income in the respective Fund Account, over the period and the proportion of depreciation on related Property Plant and Equipment is charged from grants. Other grants (grant-in-aid) are credited to Income and Expenditure Account on the basis of certainty and shown as part of revenue from operations.

#### **6. Subscription**

Subscription income is credited to Income and Expenditure Account on accrual basis.

#### **7. Sales (Other Income)**

Sales are recognized on passing of property in goods, i.e. delivery as per terms of sale. Service income is recognized as revenue after the service is rendered and invoiced to the customers.



**8. Interest Income**

Income from interest is accounted for on accrual basis.

**9. Retirement benefits**

**(a) Defined Contribution Plan**

The Association contributes to Provident Funds which are administered by duly constituted and approved independent Trust / Fund managed by Regional Provident Fund Commissioner and such contributions are accounted for in Income and Expenditure Account every year.

**(b) Defined Benefit Plans**

Gratuity liability including liability for garden workers at the two experimental estates of the Association which are unfunded are actuarially determined at the year end and provided for in the accounts.

**(c) Other Employee Benefits**

Accrued liability towards leave encashment benefits payable to employees are actuarially determined at the end of the year and provided for in the accounts.

**10. Provisions & Contingent Liabilities**

Provisions are recognised when there is a present obligation as a result of past events where it is probable that there will be outflow of resource to settle the obligation and when a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made. When any such present obligation cannot be measured or where a realistic estimate of the obligation cannot be made the same are disclosed as Contingent Liabilities.

Contingent liability, if any, are disclosed, when there is a possible obligation or a present obligation that may, but probably will not, require an outflow of resources. Where there is a possible obligation or a present obligation in respect of which the likelihood of outflow of resources is remote, no provision or disclosure is made.

Contingent assets are neither recognised nor disclosed in the financial statements.



**SCHEDULE - XXIII**  
**NOTES ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2024**

1. In terms of the agreement entered into on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1976 with Assam Tea Corporation Limited, the entire activities of Tocklai Division of Cinnamara Tea Estate including all its assets and liabilities have been taken over by the Association with retrospective effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 1976. Adjustments have not been made in the books of the Association as regards Property plant and equipment taken over, depreciation thereon and for transfer of properties as registration of deed of conveyance is pending. Adjustments have also not been made for purchase consideration payable to Assam Tea Corporation Limited and consequently titles have not yet been transferred in respect of immovable properties taken over by the Association.

Further, during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Association (TRA) and Assam Tea Corporation Limited (ATCL), based on which ATCL will take back the entire Tocklai Division of Cinnamara Tea Estate containing 112.80 hectare of land. As per the MOU, Association will pay all statutory dues and outstanding dues to the concerned employees till the time of transfer of the estate directly or in instalments. The effective date of execution of the contract will be 01<sup>st</sup> January 2023 which is agreed by TRA and ATCL and the same is not yet executed. In respect thereof, the effect on the net assets position and the deficit for the year, had the adjustments been carried out, is not ascertainable.

2. Sundry Creditors (other liabilities) include the sum of Rs. 733 ('000) (Rs. 667 ('000) received during the year 1979-80 and Rs. 66 ('000) in 1995-96) from Assam Agricultural University as consideration for sale of certain property at Borbhetta, Jorhat, Assam and a sum of Rs. 86 ('000) received in the year 1981-82 from Catholic Church as consideration for the sale of a bungalow at Jorhat, in respect of which the deed of conveyance has not been executed.
3. Included in Other current liabilities – Statutory Liabilities (Schedule VIII), a loan taken from TRA Officers Provident Fund earlier. The balance as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 stands at Rs 21,049 ('000) (including accrued interest of Rs. 8,299 ('000)) [31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs 19,997 ('000) (including accrued interest of Rs. 7,247 ('000))].
4. As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 the Association has an accumulated deficit of Rs. 582,566 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs. 560,600 ('000)) and as on that date, its current liabilities exceeded its current assets by Rs. 158,149 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs. 233,230 ('000)). The Tea Board of India (Tea Board) extended the funding modalities to the Association for the medium-term framework till 2025-26. However, there has been a cash shortfall for the Association primarily on account of such grant under the said framework being limited to only 49% of total expenditure incurred under five approved heads at the Tocklai Tea Research Institute from FY 2016-17 onwards (with an overall annual maximum limit of Rs. 104,800 ('000)).

As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, the Association had liabilities which included (a) Provident Fund dues of Rs. 6,883 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs 4,560 ('000)) in respect of certain employees of the Association which were not deposited under the Assam Tea Plantation Provident Fund Scheme on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, while dues of Rs. 30,968 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs. 15,675 ('000)) which were not deposited to the Appropriate Authority under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act of 1952, and (b) employee related liabilities of Rs. 137,639 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs. 166,967 ('000)), including dues of retired employees of Rs. 89,706 ('000) (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023: Rs. 116,189 ('000)). These events or conditions, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, and therefore it may be unable to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities including potential liabilities in the normal course of business.

However, the following initiatives taken by the association are expected to have a positive impact on the cash flows of the Association:

- (a) the Association had in 2023 with the help of an external consultant have identified seven revenue generation verticals, including restricting research and development benefits for members only, certification and overseas collaboration, training & skill development like diploma courses / workshops / seminars / events / tea tasting sessions for tea enthusiasts, and educational courses on tea to enable the Association to be self-sufficient in the next few years have started yielding positive results.





- (b) On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the Association has applied to Assam State Government for grant of an annual assistance of Rs. 12 Crores in the form of soft loan for sustainable funding to meet the deficit. The Association have subsequently received Rs. 10 Crores from the Assam State Government on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 which have been majorly used to repay the old retiral and other dues of employees.
- (c) In July 2024, the Association has made representations to the Ministries of Finance and Commerce of Government of India requesting the grant from Tea Board to cover 80% of the five approved expenditure heads incurred at the Tocklai Tea Research Institute from the present grant covering 49%, with removal of the maximum upper limit of Rs. 104,800 ('000). Such representation has been forwarded by the concerned Ministry to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research ('DSIR'). In pursuance thereof, in August 2024, the Association has made further representation to DSIR highlighting the financial crisis being faced by the Association and the requirement of releasing of the aforesaid funds/grant in aid by the Ministry of Commerce.
- (d) The Association, based on several rounds of discussions with representatives of the associations of Small Tea Growers ('STGs') as mediated by the Government of Assam, is contemplating additional membership fees from STGs. In-principle agreement has been reached through such deliberations, and the broad contours and modalities of such STG membership are being worked out. The discussions are expected to lead to significant additional membership fees from April 2025.
- (e) The Association has entered into an Agreement with Trustea Sustainable Tea Foundation on 1 March 2024, under which it shall be receiving total contribution of Rs. 9,800 ('000) towards implementation of sustainability programme in agriculture, of which around Rs. 5,896 ('000) has already been received by TRA up till August 2024.
- (f) Further, the Association has entered into an agreement with Hindustan Unilever Limited effective from . 1 October 2023 for rendering services covering scientific survey, estimation and research of carbon footprint in tea estates of India upto March 2025, under which HUL shall be contributing Rs. 16,600 ('000) to the Association.
- (g) On 3 Oct 2024, the Tea Board of India has brought out a sub-announcement on Tea Development & Promotion Schemes (TD&PS) till FY 2025-26, where it has re-iterated the grant of 49% of the under five approved heads at the Tocklai Tea Research Institute, subject to the maximum upper limit of Rs. 104,800 ('000). The subsidy shall be disbursed on quarterly application by the Association. Further, in August 2024, the Industries Ministry of Assam had written to the Union Ministry of Commerce & Industries requesting the increase in funding to the Association as mentioned in point (c) above. In the addition to the request above, the Government of Assam has committed necessary support required for sustainability of the Institute.

In view of these, the financial statements have been prepared on going concern basis.

5. There are no Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, to whom the Association owes dues (including interest on outstanding dues), which are outstanding as at 31 March, 2024 and 31 March, 2023. The information has been determined to the extent such parties have been identified on the basis of information available with the Association. This has been relied upon by the auditors.

Disclosure relating to suppliers registered under MSMED Act based on the information available with the Association:

Disclosure relating to suppliers registered under MSMED Act based on the information available with the entity Company:		
Particulars	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024 (in Rs. '000)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 (in Rs. '000)
(a) Amount remaining unpaid to any supplier at the end of each accounting year:		
Principal	491	-
Interest	-	-
Total	-	-
(b) The amount of interest paid by the buyer in terms	-	-





of section 16 of the MSMED Act, along with the amount of the payment made to the supplier beyond the appointed day during each accounting year.	-	-
(c) The amount of interest due and payable for the period of delay in making payment (which have been paid but beyond the appointed day during the year) but without adding the interest specified under the MSMED Act.	-	-
(d) The amount of interest accrued and remaining unpaid at the end of each accounting year.	-	-
(e) The amount of further interest remaining due and payable even in the succeeding years, until such date when the interest dues above are actually paid to the small enterprise, for the purpose of disallowance of a deductible expenditure under section 23 of the MSMED Act.	-	-

6. The Association, being an approved scientific research association within the meaning of Section-35(1)(ii) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 enjoys exemption granted under Section 10(21) of the Act from payment of any Income Tax.
7. Principal actuarial assumptions as per actuarial valuation as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024 in respect of Defined Employee Benefit Schemes:

Description	Gratuity		Leave Encashment	
	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
Financial assumptions:				
Discounting rate (per annum)	7.00%	7.15%	7.00%	7.15%
Future salary increase	5%	5%	5%	5%
Demographic assumption:				
Mortality rates	100% of IALM 2012-14	100% of IALM 2012-14	100% of IALM 2012-14	100% of IALM 2012-14

The estimates of future salary increases, considered in actuarial valuations, take account of inflation, seniority, promotion and other relevant factors, such as supply and demand in the employment market.

8. Certain information relating to Accounting Standards issued by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India are not disclosed by the Association pursuant to exemptions / relaxations announced by the said Institute for Level IV Non-Company entities.
9. Figures for the previous year have been rearranged / regrouped wherever necessary.

For Tea Research Association

*Joydeep Phukan*

Joydeep Phukan  
Secretary

*N. Palchoudhuri*

N. Palchoudhuri  
Chairperson

Date: 12.12.2024

