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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL Government Notifications

L.D.B. 2/1976 (iii)

SRI LANKA TEA BOARD LAW No. 14 OF 1975

REGULATIONS made by the Sri Lanka Tea Board under section 25 read with sections 4(2) (f) and 8 (1) of the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 and approved by the Minister of Plantation.

JAYAMPATHY MOLLIGODA,
Chairman,
Sri Lanka Tea Board.

Colombo,
10th September, 2021.

Regulations

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Sri Lanka Tea Board (Analysis and Quality Certification of Tea) Regulations 2021.

2. Sri Lanka Tea Board (hereinafter referred to as the 'Board') shall establish and maintain an Analytical Laboratory (hereinafter referred to as the 'Laboratory') equipped with the necessary tests and other facilities to carry out scientific testing using established methodologies on made tea and other forms of tea products for the purpose of analysis and quality certification.



3. The Board may appoint such officers and servants as are necessary for carrying out the activities in the Laboratory as per the approved Scheme of Recruitment of the Board.

4. The authorized officers of the Board shall have the power under these regulations to enter a tea factory or any other place where tea is stored to question and obtain statements and deal with any other forms of documents from any identified party or parties and to attend sampling for the purpose of investigation and scientifically conformation of the quality of tea by Laboratory.

5. The Board shall issue certificates or analytical reports, after inspection of operational activities of the tea industry and after examining or analyzing of tea samples manufactured or derived from the plant *Camellia sinensis L* and any other product or any other material or substance used or suspected to be intended for use in the manufacture, Production, Processing or treatment on final product of tea for the following purpose :-

- (a) to determine whether the made tea produced locally or imported or marketed or made ready for delivery, conforms to the chemical standards stipulated for tea by the institutions established for the purpose of standardization nationally or internationally and ratified by the Board ;
- (b) to determine the existence of the content of microbiological contamination, insect infestation, foreign matter and any other contaminants, in made tea using established methodologies as stipulated by nationally or internationally established institutions ;
- (c) to determine whether residues of pesticide and other chemical substances found in made tea complies with -
 - (i) the specified pesticides and other chemical substances recommended by the Tea Research Institute or other relevant government organizations or institutions of Sri Lanka ; and
 - (ii) the maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides and other chemical substances stipulated by the relevant Local Authorities of tea consuming countries or international bodies ;
- (d) to certify whether the made tea is fit for human consumption ;
- (e) to examine, analyze and certify any other quality parameters of made tea on the official request of tea manufactures, tea brokers, tea exporters, tea importers, tea buyers, tea sellers or any other parties connected to tea industry and tea consumers ;
- (f) to determine the substances and contaminants in ready to drink tea or any other by products either in liquid or solid form, based on the refused tea or made tea produced with prior approval of the Board ;
- (g) to determine whether the made tea has met with required standards by examining and analyzing of tea containing artificial or natural additives, which are ready for consumption ;
- (h) to examine and determine any material or substance used or suspected to be intended for use in the manufacture, Production, Processing or treatment of made tea ;
- (i) to certify made tea under the analytical and quality parameters laid down by the Board ;
- (j) to certify operational activities of authorized facilities in line with the final product of tea hygienically up to dispatch or shipment ;

6. Any person who contravenes the provisions of these regulations and knowingly furnishes false or incorrect information and provide incorrect samples to the Board, shall be guilty of an offence under the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975.

7. These regulations shall apply to every person who obtains the services of the Laboratory.

8. For the purpose of these regulations -

“additives” means substances which are added to any food, capable of inhabiting retarding or arresting the process of fermentation, acidification or other decomposition of food ;

“authorized officer” means an officer authorized to execute the duties as directed by the Board for implementing the provisions of these regulations ;

“Foreign matter” means external substance or substances which could be either harmful or not in the target object ;

“International Organization for Standardization” means an Organization that sets standards in businesses and technologies including computing and communications ;

“Insect infestation” means insect live persistently and in large numbers and damage the target object by way of live or dead insects and their excretions or dead insects or their excretions ;

“local or International standards and guidelines” means all local or international standards and guidelines as adopted or revised from time to time ;

“Made tea” shall have the same meaning assigned to it in the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 ;

“Maximum Residue Limit (MRL)” means the maximum concentration of residue of pesticides and other chemical substances that is legally permitted or recognized as acceptable in or on a food, agricultural commodity or animal feed as set by ‘Codex Alimentarius Commission’ or a national regulatory authority ;

“Microbiological Contaminants” means any substance that has been made impure by adding dangerous or disease carrying microbes ;

“Pest” means any organism through direct or indirect action causes damage or loss to crops and harvest ;

“Pesticides” means substances intended for controlling, preventing, destroying, repelling and mitigating any pest. ;