

Chapter -13

The Particulars of Concessions, Permits Or Authorization Granted By It **(under section 4(1)(b) (xiii) of RTI Act)**

PRODUCTION REGULATION:

According to Section 8(2) (a) of the Tobacco Board Act, one of the important functions of the Tobacco Board is regulation of Production and curing of FCV tobacco having regard to the demand for tobacco in India and abroad. To achieve this objective, every year Board lays down production Policy and fixes crop size for different soil regions in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka taking into consideration various factors specified in clause (a) of sub section (2) of section 8 of Tobacco Board Act, 1975 like the demand for flue cured virginia tobacco in India and abroad and the marketability of different tobaccos etc. For projecting the demand, Tobacco Board ascertains the requirements of the manufacturers and the exporters. Board also takes into consideration the global supply situation; the carryover stocks lying in the market from the previous crops and also the specific demand for tobaccos grown in various areas such as Northern light soils, southern light soils and traditional black soils in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka light soils. Based on the demand projected, the Board evolves the production strategy and fixes crop targets area-wise.

Basing on the production policy laid down, the Registration Committee for growers and others will lay down the criteria for registration or renewal of registration of growers of virginia tobacco, nurserymen as per Rule 33 A (2) and 33-D(1) of the Tobacco Board Rules 1976. The committee also lays down criteria for grant of licences or renewal of licences for construction of barns and operation of barns as per Rule 34-M (1) and 34-O (1) of the Tobacco Board Rules 1976. The Registration Committee decides on area to be registered per barn and quota to be authorized taking into consideration the number of licensed barns and productivity levels of tobacco basing on the area –wise targets fixed. Accordingly the registered growers are allocated a production quota in terms of fixed kilograms for his barn(s) and number of hectares of area to be cultivated for his/her licensed barn(s) and are monitored closely to comply with the same.

The soil region wise crop size fixed, area registered and quota authorized for a licensed barn and maximum no of barns permitted per grower during 2023-24 crop season are as follows:

Soil Region	Crop size fixed (m.kgs)	Area to be registered per barn (ha.)	Quota per barn (in Kgs)	Maximum no. of barns per grower	Maximum area per grower (in ha.)
NORTHERN LIGHT SOIL*	49.48	1.60	3540	4	6.40
SOUTHERN LIGHT SOIL	48.33	2.90	3690	4	11.60
SOUTHERN BLACK SOIL	41.65	1.90	3590	4	7.60
NORTHERN BLACK SOIL	2.54	1.10	3400	4	4.40
Andhra Pradesh Total	142.00				
KARNATAKA LIGHT SOIL	100.00	1.40 (Simplex)	1827 (Simplex)	4 (Simplex)	5.60
		2.80 (Duplex)	3654 (Duplex)	2 (Duplex)	

* N.L.S. includes ELS also

PRODUCTION REGULATION CAMPAIGN:

The Board undertake a focused Production Regulation Campaign during crop season to limit the production to the crop size fixed by the Board and prevent excess/unauthorized production of FCV tobacco through personal contacts, group meetings in the villages and mass contact programmes. Public communication strategies such as posters, distribution of pamphlets, playing of audio cassettes, electronic and print media were used to appeal to the growers to limit the production to the crop size fixed by the Board and prevent excess/unauthorized production of FCV tobacco.

In Karnataka, the registration of FCV tobacco growers commenced w.e.f. 06.04.2023 for 2023-24 crop season and closed by 15.10.2023. A total of 39,611 growers covering 50,499 barns were registered for cultivation of tobacco for 2023-24 crop season. An area of 63,404.25 ha., was planted and 88.86 million kg., was marketed.

In Andhra Pradesh, the registration of FCV tobacco growers commenced w.e.f 06.09.2023 for 2023-24 crop season and as on 24.05.2024, a total of 43,182 growers covering 39,425.37 barns are registered and an area of 99,311.35 ha., was planted.

The Auction Platform wise Registration Particulars for 2023-24 crop season in Karnataka are as follows:-

S. No.	Name of the APF	Growers	Barns	Area Registered (ha.)	Quota Authorised (Million.kg)	Area Planted(ha)
Mysore Region:						
1	H.D.Kote-1	3817	4925.00	6895.00	8.74	6355.00
2	Hunsur-2	3343	4136.00	5790.40	7.47	6122.60
3	Hunsur-3	3181	3803.00	5324.20	6.75	4713.20
4	Hunsur-64	2398	3048.00	4267.20	5.42	4448.40
5	Chillakunda-62	5631	7248.00	10147.20	13.00	9291.00
	Total:	18370	23160.00	32424.00	41.37	30930.20
Periyapatna Region:						
6	Periyapatna-4	4367	6127.00	8577.80	10.86	6420.00
7	Periyapatna-5	4829	6197.00	8675.80	11.18	7810.05
8	Periyapatna-6	4800	6093.00	8530.20	10.97	6786.00
9	Ramanathpura-7	4072	4977.00	6967.80	8.79	6101.00
10	Ramanathpura-63	3173	3945.00	5523.00	7.05	5357.00
	Total:	21241	27339.00	38274.60	48.84	32474.05
	Grand Total:	39611	50499.00	70698.60	90.21	63404.25

Auction Platform wise registration particulars for 2023-24 crop season (as on 24.05.2024) in Andhra Pradesh

Particulars	Crop size fixed (mkg)			No. of growers			No. of barns			Area registered (ha)			Area Planted (ha)		
	L.S.	B.S.	Total	L.S.	B.S.	Total	L.S.	B.S.	Total	L.S.	B.S.	Total	L.S.	B.S.	Total
NLS Region															
Devarapally	7.10	2.54	9.64	1624	944	2568	1870.51	1002.00	2872.51	2990.31	1102.20	4092.51	2922.37	1080.76	4003.13
ELS	0.19	0.00	0.19	24	0	24	27.00	0.00	27.00	43.20	0.00	43.20	39.00	0.00	39.00
Devarapally	7.29	2.54	9.83	1648	944	2592	1897.51	1002.00	2899.51	3033.51	1102.20	4135.71	2961.37	1080.76	4042.13
J.R.Gudem-I	10.61	0.00	10.61	2521	0	2521	3025.50	0.00	3025.50	4830.05	0.00	4830.05	5153.00	0.00	5153.00
J.R.Gudem-II	10.84	0.00	10.84	2791	0	2791	3061.50	0.00	3061.50	4899.20	0.00	4899.20	7596.12	0.00	7596.12
Koyyalagudem	10.55	0.00	10.55	2662	0	2662	3057.90	0.00	3057.90	4891.64	0.00	4891.64	5375.00	0.00	5375.00
Gopalapuram	10.20	0.00	10.20	2286	0	2286	2782.00	0.00	2782.00	4451.20	0.00	4451.20	4799.20	0.00	4799.20
Sub total	49.48	2.54	52.02	11908	944	12852	13824.41	1002.00	14826.41	22105.60	1102.20	23207.80	25884.69	1080.76	26965.45
SBS Region															
Vellampally-II	3.32	5.21	8.53	1031	1503	2534	862.27	1476.46	2338.73	2491.31	2804.91	5296.22	2883.00	4122.00	7005.00
Ongole-I	2.47	7.34	9.82	1010	2051	3061	699.51	2067.15	2766.66	1887.24	3913.14	5800.38	2765.00	5810.00	8575.00
Ongole-II	0.00	8.00	8.00	0	2006	2006	0.00	2216.83	2216.83	0.00	4211.67	4211.67	0.00	5045.00	5045.00
Tangutur-I	0.00	10.07	10.07	0	2863	2863	0.00	2826.19	2826.19	0.00	5348.37	5348.37	0.00	7147.00	7147.00
Kondepi	4.56	5.63	10.19	1984	2000	3984	1245.56	1582.43	2827.99	3577.03	2996.14	6573.17	4355.40	4132.60	8488.00
Sub total	10.35	36.26	46.62	4025	10423	14448	2807.34	10169.06	12976.40	7955.58	19274.23	27229.81	10003.40	26256.60	36260.00
SLS Region															
Podili-I	9.42	0.79	10.21	4166	282	4448	2422.63	212.67	2635.30	7032.87	404.23	7437.10	7795.16	417.84	8213.00
Kanigiri	4.79	0.00	4.79	1530	0	1530	1277.73	0.00	1277.73	3698.77	0.00	3698.77	4478.00	0.00	4478.00
Kandukur-I	6.77	2.39	9.16	2573	828	3401	1871.52	678.67	2550.19	4984.32	1284.69	6269.01	6130.00	1703.00	7833.00
Kandukur-II	5.89	2.00	7.89	2200	780	2980	1612.09	564.92	2177.01	4539.70	1070.71	5610.41	5416.99	1491.01	6908.00
Kaligiri	4.68	0.21	4.89	1390	49	1439	1210.08	51.75	1261.83	3510.37	98.34	3608.71	3616.20	107.70	3723.90
D.C.Palli	6.43	0.00	6.43	2084	0	2084	1720.50	0.00	1720.50	4989.46	0.00	4989.46	4930.00	0.00	4930.00
Sub Total	37.98	5.39	43.36	13943	1939	15882	10114.55	1508.01	11622.56	28755.49	2857.97	31613.46	32366.35	3719.55	36085.90
Grand Total	97.82	44.19	142.00	29876	13306	43182	26746.30	12679.07	39425.37	58816.67	23234.40	82051.07	68254.44	31056.91	99311.35

ABSTRACT

(Area in ha., Qty. in mkg)

Region	Crop size fixed	Growers	Barns	Area Regd.	Area Planted (ha.)
NLS	49.48	11908	13824.41	22105.60	25884.69
SLS	48.32	17968	12921.89	36711.07	42369.75
SBS	41.65	12362	11677.07	22132.20	29976.15
NBS	2.54	944	1002.00	1102.20	1080.76
Total:	142.00	43182	39425.37	82051.07	99311.3

(b) Auctioneering services for the sale of FCV tobacco:

The Tobacco Board has established auction platforms (auction centres) in the vicinity of tobacco growing areas and introduced auction system for sale of FCV tobacco during 1984 to ensure fair and remunerative prices to the farmers. Since then, the auction system was being implemented successfully.

This system ensures accurate weighment, competitive bidding and prompt payment. This system has been working well to the satisfaction of farmers as well as traders.

(c) Introduction of Electronic auction (e-auction) system:

Though the manual auction system for sale of FCV tobacco has been a time tested one, for fine tuning of the system the Board has opted for introduction of information technology driven fool proof technology in auctioning of FCV tobacco to have absolute transparency in the auction proceedings and to eliminate the errors that were been encountered in manual auction system. Tobacco Board introduced e-auction system in the year 2012.

Advantages of E-Auctions compared to manual auctions system:

- In e-Auctions, bidding process can be viewed on LED screens and the whole process is transparent and in real time environment.
- Bid Prices are recorded automatically in the server and there is no scope for price corrections.
- All transactions are made available in digital format and this eliminates the manual recording of various auction data, thereby eliminating mistakes.
- This eliminates the discrimination of the auctioneer to award a lot to a specific buyer, hence no bias.
- Since this system does not allow any sort of manual interventions, it improves the competition among the buyers, there by leads to better price discovery for the produce offered for sale in auctions.
- The buyers can plan their buying strategy in advance by recording their remarks on the hand-held terminals provided to them to participate in bidding process.
- Cartel formation by the buyers is avoided as the details of the participating buyers is masked.
- The system monitors and allows the buyers to participate in bidding upto their credit limits only.

The channel of supervision and accessibility is represented in a form of organizational chart of Tobacco Board at page No.03.

Registration of Traders:

The Registration/renewal of registration granted to different categories of traders for the year 2023 and for the year 2024 (as on 13.06.2024) are as follows:

Sl . No	Category	No. of Companies Registered	
		2023	2024*
1.	Processor of Virginia Tobacco	14	13
2.	Manufacturer of Virginia Tobacco	35	27
3.	Exporter of tobacco	211	204
4.	Exporter of tobacco products	576	476
5.	Dealer in tobacco	346	317
6.	Packer of tobacco	21	19
7.	Commercial grader of Virginia tobacco	19	14
	Total	1222	1070

***As on 13.06.2024**

In line with the Government of India's initiative on "Digital India, Tobacco Board had introduced online system for e-filing of applications for grant of registration / renewal of registration under various categories, to traders to provide a transparent and integrated electronic services to the tobacco trade. E-filing of applications has been made mandatory for obtaining registration / renewal of registration by all categories of traders through portal www.tobaccoboard.in.

Tobacco Board has on-boarded to National Single Window System on 22.09.2021 for fresh investors/traders. The NSWS portal is accessible to investors for registration with Tobacco Board under various categories.