



KOLONG-KILING

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Dr. Diganta Borah
Bidyut Das

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Tea Industry of Assam in Post COVID 19 Pandemic Scenario

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Tea industry of India and Assam:

After China, India is the second largest producer of tea in the world. With nearly 30% of total tea consumption, India is the largest consumer of the world's tea output as of 2011. India is the third largest tea exporter in the world. Tea produced in India can be categorized into three types namely, Assam tea, Darjeeling tea and Nilgiri tea. Tea cultivation in India is confined to certain parts of the country, mainly in the states of Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. 80% of total tea harvest is contributed by the states of Assam and West Bengal.

The Tea industry in Assam is almost 197 years old. The British East India Company discovered the tea plants in the upper Brahmaputra Valley of Assam in the year 1823. Subsequently, Assam Company was formed in 1839 to take over the East India Company administered tea gardens in Assam. With a view to carry out research on cultivation and manufacture of tea, the Tocklai Experimental Station (later renamed as Tocklai Tea