



A REVIEW ON THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TEA GARDEN COMMUNITY IN ASSAM

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ABSTRACT:

The tea manor industry of Assam covers countless regions and possesses the top position in the field of the Indian economy. In 1833, Robert Bruce, a youthful British official assumed a part in the disclosure of tea in Assam. Bit by bit, the European grower class opened numerous tea gardens in the whole piece of Assam. As we realize that the tea industry is a work-arranged industry that requires an enormous number of laborers.

The English government brought an enormous number of Adivasi ethnic gatherings to Assam for working in the tea gardens from various pieces of India which had their own social also, social qualities. With the progression of time, the tea garden laborers' local area had fostered another socio-social character and added to the development of another composite society. These social highlights make them an unmistakable local area inside another climate.

The current paper which is named " Role of Youth in Socio-Economic Development of tea garden communities is an investigation of the current status of the youth of the state of tea gardens. " It is an endeavor to examine the interaction and commitment of the youth in updating the tea business and the Assamese society. It likewise manages the present financial condition and fate of the tea garden community.

The paper additionally managed the general condition of their backwardness and makes an investigation on political activation of tea garden local area and the job of which makes an impressive level of effect on contemporary legislative issues of the State. It likewise clarifies the different chances for youth which are accessible in the tea area.

KEYWORDS:

TEA GARDEN COMMUNITY OF INDIA AND ASSAM, YOUTH, BEHAVIOUR, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, IMPORT-EXPORT SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

I. INTRODUCTION

Tea has a place of pride among plantation crops grown around various countries and is traditionally cultivated on hill slopes and is popularly known as 'Taida cha' especially among the Japanese people. The famous Indian beverage called tea or 'chai' is more than just a cup of tea to start the day in the morning. Life would not be complete without that thick, sweet drink.

There is no doubt that India is among the world's largest producers of tea. It is estimated that 837,000 tonnes are consumed each year in the country. Chai is an Indian beverage that is universally loved and consumed, and many people along the roadside serve it boiled up with spices, sugar, and milk.

Several renowned teas are also grown exclusively in India, such as Assam and Darjeeling. Assam which is especially known for its Aromatic quality produces about 51% of the tea produced in India and about 1/6 of the tea produced in the world.

A tea garden community is a multi-ethnic group of people who work in tea gardens and live with their dependents. Officially, they are referred to as "Tea-tribes" by the

Assamese government. Approximately 17% of all workers in Assam are involved in the production of cash crops and food. While Assam's staple crop, rice's efficiency has not increased over the years, other yields have decreased while land values and yields have increased for other crops. The state of Assam produces a combination of food and cash crops. Rice is Assam's staple harvest, but its efficiency has not grown over the years. On the other hand, other crops such as cotton and barley have seen gains. Assam has a total population of 36 million. In addition to this, half of the population consists of young adults who can generate a demographic dividend for the country within the next 10-15 years.

A number of national and international forums have highlighted the low participation rate of youth in agricultural education programs. By giving youth the right opportunity, they can positively contribute to nations' economies.

For young people to be ready for the opportunities in this sector, the government needs to invest more in better quality education and skills.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To study the current scenario of the tea garden

community of Assam in context to the nation.

- To identify the challenges faced by the tea industry and the youth of Assam
- To study and identify the role of youth in developing the socio-economic condition of the country in terms of tea plantations.
- To provide some suggestions for developing the status of youth in context to the socio-economic development of Assam.
- To concentrate on the drives taken by the public authority for the improvement of the tea garden local area of Assam.

III. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions were also formulated for investigation during the course of this research: -

1. To what extent does “change” reflect in the socio-cultural adjustment of the tea plantation youth workers in Assam?
2. What are the problems faced by the tea garden community's youth of Assam in the context of adjustment with the new socio-cultural and demographic environment to contribute their share for the socio-economic development of the country as well as Assam?
3. Which type of lifestyle is leading to the development of Tea gardens by Assam youth?
4. Are they playing their part in developing the nation and if they are not contributing then how can they play their role in developing the socio-economic status of tea garden communities in Assam?

IV. METHODOLOGY

Based on the research used normative, historical, and analytical methods of research to describe the problems

faced by the tea garden communities and the role played by the youth in developing its socio-economic status. The data for this research paper is collected from sources that are secondary such as books, journals, government reports, etc.

Several websites were reviewed and the information about the tea garden community of Assam was examined, along with official reports related to population sex ratio, literacy rate, government schemes, and employment opportunities for the youth in the tea industry. A picture of the tea garden community's human development is compiled. Primary sources of information is collected through survey and observation based on the objectives of the study.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF TEA PRODUCTION IN INDIA

The Indian tea industry has recorded the most noteworthy creation just as fares in the monetary year 2018. An expansive number of 1325.05 million kg of tea was created in 2017-18, representing a growth of 74.56 million kg. An increase of around 6% is represented in rate terms.

India leads the world in both the production and consumption of tea. India is home to 16 states that produce tea, which is known as Camellia Sinensis in its botanical term. Approximately 95 % of the total production comes from Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

Chai, as we are probably aware, is a mixture that most Indians flourish with tea. Assam tea can mix truly well with milk and sugar, not at all like numerous different assortments of teas. It additionally supplements the kinds of a couple of flavours like cardamom, ginger, and cinnamon. There are numerous varieties of Assam tea, and the quality, just as the grades vary. Since the blend is filled in wealth, the CTC strategy for the manor is as a general rule utilized in its preparation.

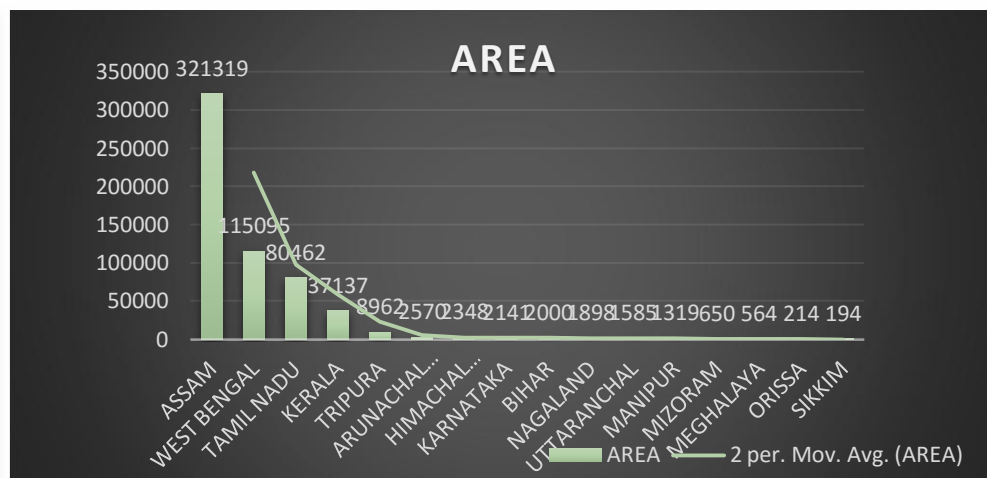


FIG 1: DISTRIBUTION OF TEA PRODUCTION INDUSTRY IN INDIA

THE FOLLOWING PLACES PRODUCE THE MAJORITY OF INDIAN TEA:

Assam: Darang, Goalpara, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Cachar, Karbi Anlong, North Cachar

West Bengal: Darjeeling, Terai (west Dinajpur), Doors (Cooch Bihar).

Tamil Nadu: Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Coimbatore, Nilgiris

Kerala: Cannan ore, Palghat, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Trichur, Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki, Wynand

Karnataka: Chikamara, Coorg, Hassan

The Largest state with a region under Tea Plantations as seen in the graph below in India is Assam.

Thus, the above graph clarifies that Assam has a space for tea development in India which is the greater part of India's Total Tea ranch region. In South India, Tamil Nadu covers the greatest estates.

VI. POTENTIAL OF THE TEA INDUSTRY IN ASSAM

Tea is Assam's oldest and most organized industry and has contributed to the economic growth of the state for many years.

Agricultural activities are the main source of Assam's economy, which is why Assam Tea is its most important export. It is the thick vegetation of these tea gardens that have added charm to Assam's natural beauty but also form its economic engine. Without which it would have endured poverty and the state would've remained impoverished, undeveloped, and unproductive. Currently, the tea

industry of Assam is the region's biggest industry, providing employment, income, jobs and an opportunity for the state to take a step towards its development.

Traditionally, tea has been grown in Assam for many years. Assam's Brahmaputra Valley was discovered by Robert Bruce, a Scottish gentleman, in 1823. The tea industry in Assam has prospered since then and has become very important to the state's economy.

During the Lakhimpur period, the Government began a tea garden. London business circles got a strong fascination for tea manors in Assam when that nursery appeared in 1938. An organization called the Assam Company was set up in 1839 to take control of the East India Company's exploration properties in Assam. This was the first organization in Quite a while to attempt the business creation of tea and was, indeed, the immediate replacement of East India.

The banks of the Brahmaputra River where the temperatures usually fluctuated from a cool and dry winter to a humid hot rainy season which was perfect for growing tea, unlike Darjeeling and Nilgiris Vichar, which were grown in the highlands. In part due to its long growing season and abundance of rain, in fact, Assam was historically the country that produced the most tea after Southern China. It is also one of the world's top tea-producing regions.

TEA EXPORT AND IMPORT

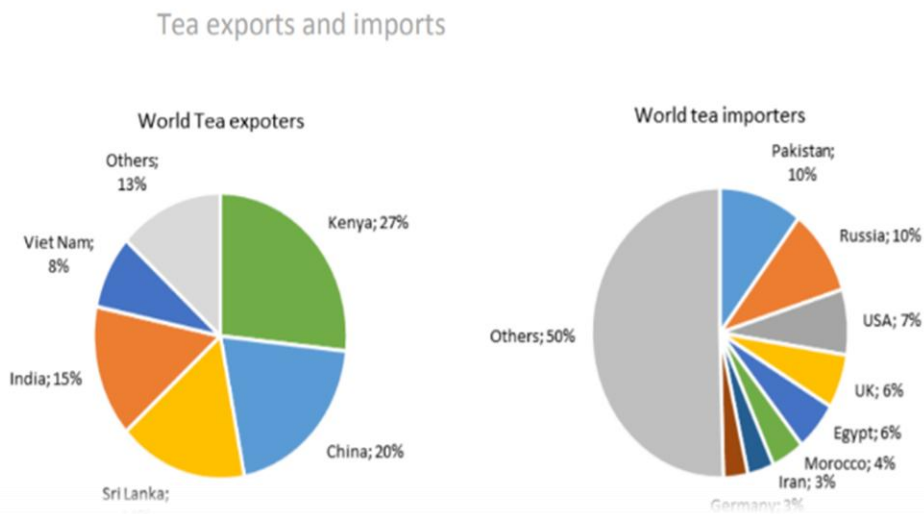


FIG. 2 MAIN WORLD TEA EXPORT AND IMPORT COUNTRIES SOURCE: BASIC, BASED ON FAO DATA (2017)

VII. THE PROCESS OF MAKING TEA

The means of assembling tea are like aged tea except for the aging advance. The means incorporate are culling,

steaming/broiling, essential warming and rolling, drying, refining, terminating, arranging, and pressing. There are 18 distinct sorts of green tea around the world.

Apart from blocking and harvesting workers perform a task related to tea cultivation including the application of fertilizers and pesticides.

For instance, green leaves may be wilted, bruised, oxidized, fixed, yellowed, shaped, dried, and cured depending on the type of tea produced (black, green, yellow, white, and oolong).

Tea may blend after the sale at auction houses. It may also be sold directly to domestic and international buyers. This

process can either be facilitated by a broker or intermediary or sold directly to the buyer.

In some cases, the last is stage directly send to buyers without going through agents or auctions.

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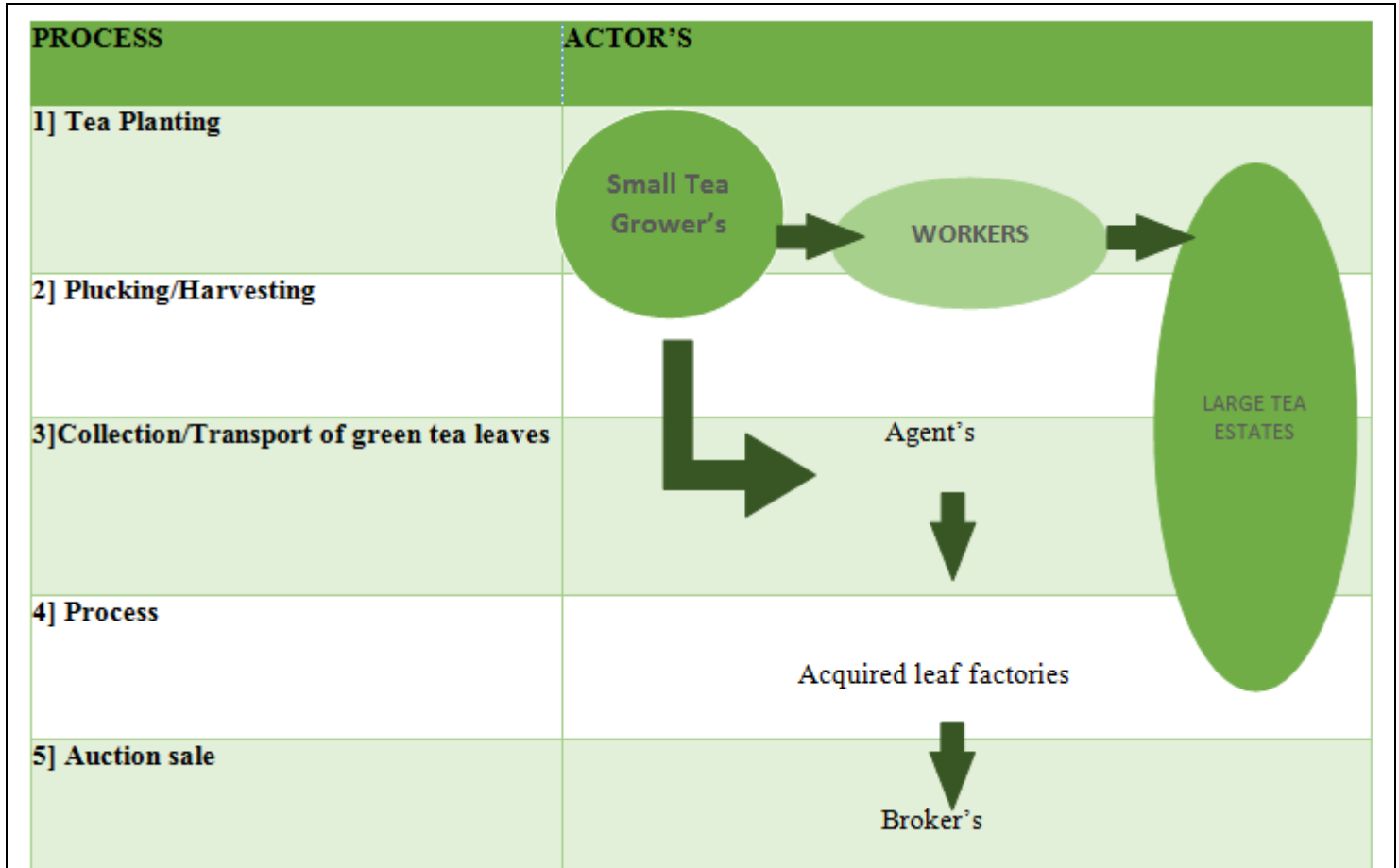


FIGURE 3: THE PROCESS OF TEA PRODUCTION WAS EXTRACTED FROM THE GOVT. OF ASSAM, OFFICIAL WEBSITE.

VIII. THE FUTURE OF TEA- NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TEA PROFESSIONALS.

A new generation of tea professionals is urgently needed. Throughout the last decade associations in different pieces of the world have dispatched ventures to build the quantity of youth engaged with the IT area some have been incredibly fruitful, producing benefits that reach out a long way past the tea area into social monetary and mental government assistance. These tasks give clear experiences that can be applied in numerous different factors and can conceivably change the tea creation area.

Youth represent an enormous level of the rustic populace,

and are frequently jobless or underemployed, regardless of the requirement for workforce in tea gardens. They face numerous obstacles in attempting to acquire a business to earn a livelihood. And the tea sector is not regarded as lucrative and prestigious by them, and until they discover significant financial freedoms and alluring conditions locally, they will keep on relocating to urban communities.

This pattern not just adds to the arising marvel of over-urbanization and developing joblessness in metropolitan regions, but at the same time is relied upon to influence worldwide food creation. Putting resources into youngsters living in country regions is hence key to improving horticultural usefulness, boosting rustic

economies and guaranteeing food security.

In North-Eastern India, Assam is one of seven sister states with an agriculture-based economy. The Assam Tea has become an indispensable part of Assam's commitment to the world.

The majority of Indian states are tilting toward a service-based, managerial economy by bit by bit, but Assam is still strongly reliant on the horticultural sector. Contrasted with most different states in India, it is considered a less prosperous state which portrays a dirty image of the monetary state of Assam.

IX. ENTREPRENEURSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH IN THE TEA INDUSTRY

A large potential for exports makes the Tea Board of Assam and other states a source of motivation for young entrepreneurs in the tea business. The youth can have a

vital role to contribute in improving the quality of Indian tea and increasing export.

India, and particularly Assam's tea's true potential is yet to be fully realized, and these needs deliberate and important advertising efforts in that direction. Utilized completely. There is much to be gained from the tea industry by young people in terms of job creation and entrepreneurship development. Young people play a very important role in the tea industry, they can bring their knowledge and wisdom to the forefront and help to shape this industry.

The tea industry offers diverse specialized jobs to youth, including tea testers, tea researchers, plantation managers, tea brokerage consultants, tea exporters, and factory managers. The industry is heavily labour-intensive and based on agriculture.



FIGURE.4 IMAGE OF TEA GARDEN OF ASSAM SOURCE WIKIPEDIA

Approximately 1 million people are directly employed by it, while 10 million people are indirectly employed. In a country with a large agribusiness, such as India, this is really very important.

It is reported that Assam has over 850 giant tea estates and thousands of small tea gardens and Approximately 4 million people earn a living directly, but if the Assam Tea industry doesn't run as planned, it is a major setback for the country's economy. Hence, immediate steps must be taken to revive the Assam tea industry.

Tea Board of India spurs youthful business visionaries in the tea business at it has large fare potential. Youth can therefore assume a part in expanding fares and home grown utilization and further developing Indian tea quality.

The genuine capability of Indian teas is as yet not completely used at this point; it needs precise and key promoting endeavours toward this path. The tea business has a ton to bring to the table youngsters as far as work ages and business venture advancement. The job of the youth in the tea business is basic, they should approach to survey this industry by their insight and intelligence. They can earn.

This industry extends to different specific open positions to youth like tea analyser, research, ranch the executives, tea financier consultancy, tea exporter, industrial facility chief, and so forth this is an agro-based and work escalated industry.

It gives direct work to 1 million individuals and backhanded work to 10 million individuals. This is a vital

industry in an agro-based nation like India.

Assam has more than 850 major tea bequests and a huge number of little tea gardens. 4,000,000 individuals are straightforwardly getting a job. It's a major financial mishap for the horticulture economy of the country if the Assam Tea industry isn't running great. Henceforth, a prompt activity is expected to resuscitate Assam Tea.

X. INCLUSION OF YOUTH IN ASSAM TEA GARDEN COMMUNITIES IS NOT A PRIORITY

Tea is the chief cash crop in Assam and is notable all around the world for its eccentric sense of taste. Despite this, the abuse of both valuable land and labour force by the tea adventure, a large portion of which are unfamiliar possessed or have a place with Indian aggregates is all around recorded.

The economy of Assam is dependent upon the essential area or agribusiness; however, it faces numerous hardships for the up liftment of the economy. Unmistakable quality ought to be given to horticulture for the financial turn of events.

There are numerous explanations behind the crudeness of cultivating, similar to regular catastrophes, capital inadequacy, advertising issues, R&D, land changes, data holes, outdated reasoning, biased social qualities, and so on. Despite this, there are issues like the absence of business person and administrative ability, poor financial foundation, government organization, and political turmoil. In order to compensate for this debilitating effect, the state should be called upon to fill the gap that the private sector has left unfilled.

1.1 TEA PRICES:

Over time, the tea cost has continuously declined due to various factors. It was never a genuine or legitimate investment to improve the nature of tea from the tea gardens, and all benefits from them were redirected. Assam's tea industry has been undergoing a critical period, resulting in the closing of the tea gardens.

1.2 STRUGGLES WITH LABOUR:

The industry is labour-intensive, which has resulted in tumultuous efforts to improve wage rates and working conditions. The lack of participation from young people in the tea industry is a major reason for this.

1.3 DECREASES IN TEA CREATION:

The tea business is confronting various challenges such as a financial crisis, a power crisis, work issues, inadequate communication frameworks, higher contamination expenses, a lack of vehicle sponsorship, and so on.

10.4 ECOLOGICAL CHANGES:

Changing climatic conditions inferable from inadequate or extremely substantial precipitation have seriously influenced the tea business and its creation.

1.5 INSUFFICIENT STORAGE:

Premium quality tea has always had an issue with storage.

The green tea leaves wasted valuable time and resources because of delays in transportation and insufficient storage facilities.

1.6 INACTION BY GOVERNMENT

Assam's tea industry does not have a sound strategy from either the state or the central government. Moreover, the industry may suffer from it as well.

1.7 OTHER ISSUES:

There are numerous barriers to the development of the tea industry in Assam, including the limited use of scientific tools and methods, insufficient capital to invest, the decline in interest among the youth in agricultural fields, and the development of industries.

XI. A TEA GARDEN COMMUNITY'S PERSPECTIVES AND MEASURES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Following the discussion of this topic, the following key proposals and measures should be enacted for the improvement of Assam's tea industry:

- 1) The business expectation of Assam tea has been heightened owing to worldwide interest
- 2) Assam tea has been gaining popularity throughout the world, which has elevated expectations.
- 3) Quality fair condition and in-house market advancement of the business can likewise profit the organization.
- 4) Expanding the tea leaf product line can evolve the industry, making it more competitive and sustainable. In particular, focusing on the export and import of tea could help it grow.
- 5) Plan and strategies prepared by the government of Assam are necessary for Assam's tea industry.
- 6) Further developed production network and capacity of the executives will improve time span of usability.
- 7) The tea worker's condition ought to be improved. Their financial and medical issue ought to likewise be improved.
- 8) Different administration projects must be started by the business just as by the public authority to foster the capacities of the tea chiefs.
- 9) It would be possible if the government provided a little help or some unique plan to make tea.
- 10) In spite of the prevailing issues, there are still possibilities and potential for enhancing Assam's economy in essential areas, such as tea marketing.

Even though, there are the on-going issues in the tea gardens, there is still hope for the development in coming future.

XII. ROLE OF YOUTH IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ASSAM TEA GARDEN COMMUNITIES

Any country's developmental process depends heavily on its youth.

The productive capacity and income-generating activities of these industries contribute to the economic

development of any nation.

The United Nations has recognized young people as a major human resource and as a key agent for economic

growth, social change, and technological advancement for decades.

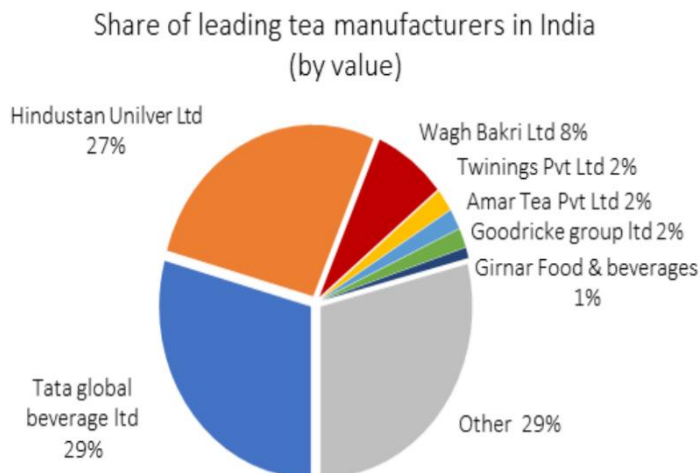


FIGURE 5: A COMPARISON OF INDIA'S MAJOR TEA MANUFACTURERS IS SHOWN IN FIGURE 4. BASED ON RESEARCH FROM THE ECONOMIC TIMES, BASIC (2017)

XIII. DRIVES TAKEN BY THE YOUTH AND THE GOVERNMENT FOR DEVELOPING THE TEA GARDEN COMMUNITY OF ASSAM

It's the youth who possess an essential situation in any country's formative interaction. Their useful limit and pay producing exercises add to the monetary advancement of any country

Investing dynamically in youth enables them to play a crucial role in their own and their networks' development. Since quite a while ago, the UN has seen young people as a significant human resource for development, as well as key specialists for social change, economic advancement, and technological development.

The active involvement of young people leads to their being empowered to play an important role in their development as well as the development of their communities.

There are actually various initiatives taken by the youth who are currently engaged with the tea garden communities of Assam for the benefit of the tea garden people

One such biggest drive is: SAKHI AND SAKHA CADRE OF YOUTH ENGAGE IN COVID-19 PREVENTION IN ASSAM TEA GARDENS

During this pandemic situation, a youth commitment program called COVID-19 SAKHI for females and COVID-19 SAKHA for males was dispatched in May 2020 to guarantee the conveyance of the right message on COVID-19 counteraction to local area individuals, while additionally reassuring them to keep looking for essential

medical services when required.

A few youths were selected with incredible excitement and went through LEHS|WISH pieces of training. While they were given an allowance, their most prominent inspiration was to be perceived in the networks as influencers and contribute towards the improvement of their localities.

Bindubai was one of the primary young ladies of the unit of 42 to join the COVID-19 SAKHI framework at the tea-garden domains in Assam where her mom has been working for a long time. She got LEHS|WISH training on COVID-19 avoidance and individual cleanliness systems to draw in and teach her nearby local area individuals.

Outfitted with the right information and devices, she prepared tea-bequest specialist local area into a few gatherings and has since sharpened almost 1100 local area individuals through 100 refinement meetings on COVID-19 avoidance techniques. She keeps on driving like a local area champion and updates her own insight occasionally with the most recent conventions through the web-based preparing stage created by LEHS|WISH.

With her topic information, her abilities out in the open talking, between close to home connections just as relational abilities have improved fundamentally. Bindubai currently leads the greater part of the meetings without help from anyone else and is viewed as a diplomat inside her local area. Assam government beginning the development of 119 model secondary schools in tea garden spaces of the state is an age taking action. When finished, these schools will change the instruction situation in tea garden regions by controlling the high dropout paces

of offspring of labourers at the auxiliary degree of tutoring. One of the essential reasons for high dropout rates in these auxiliary levels in garden regions is the non-accessibility of optional schools inside the strolling distance. The dropout rate is higher among young lady offspring of tea garden regions.

As a result of poor financial condition, the nursery labourers can't bear to send their kids to tuition-based schools regardless of whether there is any accessibility closer to their states as analysed by the public authority schools.

The absence of schooling pushes most dropout garden understudies either to wind up turning into an everyday breadwinner or become nursery labourers when their folks resign or move to metropolitan development places inside the state or outside looking for greener fields.

In this way, the endless loop of neediness and backwardness proceeds given the absence of admittance to instruction. The nursery labourers having a place with the Adivasi people group have been making the tremendous commitment to the state's economy by their hard work in the state tea area which represents more than 50% of the nation's complete tea creation. Tragically the past governments have not done anything worth seeing over the past seventy years of autonomy to work on the admittance to training among garden labourers because of which the tea-clan networks fell a long way behind than different networks. The absence of optional and advanced education additionally denied the nursery youth from occupations in government just as private areas. As of now no tea garden in the state has a secondary school.

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There are more than 800 huge tea gardens in the state which have around five lakh perpetual labourers and an equivalent number of impermanent specialists. There are primary schools run by garden administrations.

XIV. CONCLUSION

The present research paper reveals that the growth of the Tea industry can open up new areas for the development of the Indian economy. It may be noted that Assam plays a leading role in the production of tea. Similarly, the tea industry provides a good number of employment opportunities in diverse sectors of the tea industry for example (entrepreneurship, tea business, export and import of tea, tea workers, material suppliers, etc). And especially for the youth, the tea garden community is a big boom in the present period.

The paper also reveals the process of socio-cultural changes among the tea workers in the tea plantation sector of Assam. They have to interact with a dominant cultural group in the process of their socio-cultural adjustment within a new environment situation. Also, assimilating and accumulating with the native people has been a problem for the tea plantation workers. Assam faced a different situation concerning preserving the identity of the tea garden workers who came from outside the state. They have been rudely rocked and given a whole new dimension to their identity. As a result, the tea garden workers have taken steps to assimilate with the local culture by incorporating themselves into the new socio-cultural environment of the area. The study also reveals that the conditions of the tea garden labourers are very poor although they avail themselves of the facilities from the management of the Tea Garden.

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