



White Tea

The **Golokpur tea estate** in **Unakoti** district of **Tripura** set a record for selling maximum quantity of white tea.

- White tea (minimally processed) is harvested even before the plants leaves unfurl fully with the buds still covered by fine white hairs, hence, the name white .
- India accounts for 14% of global tea exports and nearly 20% of the tea produced in the country is exported, according to Tea Board India.

India and Tea Production

- The **largest consumer** of tea in the world
- The **second largest producer** of tea in the world
- The **fourth largest exporter** of tea in the world

Tea Cultivation

- Tea cultivation and plantation is practiced in Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiri Hills of South India and Tarai along the foothills of the Himalayas .

Conditions of Growth

- **Climate:** Tea is a tropical and sub-tropical plant and grows well in **hot** and **humid climate**.
- **Temperature:** The ideal temperature for its growth is **20°-30°C** and temperatures above 35°C and below 10°C are harmful for the bush.
- **Rainfall:** It requires **150-300 cm** annual rainfall which should be well distributed throughout the year.
- **Soil:** The most suitable soil for tea cultivation is slightly acidic soil (without calcium) with porous sub-soil which permits a free percolation of water.
- Tea is a **shade-loving plant** and develops more vigorously when planted along with shady trees.
- There is a very close relation between climate, the yield and the quality of tea

Tea Board

- It is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Commerce**.
- The Board is constituted of 31 members (including Chairman) drawn from Members of Parliament, tea **producers**, tea **traders**, tea **brokers**, **consumers**, and **representatives of Governments** from the principal tea producing states, and trade unions .
- The Board is reconstituted **every three years**.

Function

- Rendering **financial** and **technical assistance** for cultivation, manufacture and marketing of tea.
- Export promotion

- Research and Development activities
- Extend financial assistance in a limited way to the plantation workers and their wards through labour welfare schemes.
- Collection and maintenance of Statistical data and publication.

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