Four Year Undergraduate Programme
(CBCS and Accordance with NEP 2020)

TEA CULTIVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Second Semester
Skill Enhancement Course

Guru Prasad Das School of Interdisciplinary and Vocational Studies

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

COURSE INTRODUCTION

Tea Cultivation and Management

Tea is one of the most important plantation crops of Assam and the tea industry is the only major agro-based industry in the state. The importance of the tea industry lies mostly in the employment of a huge number of laborers in the rural areas half of which consist of women. Traditionally, tea industry in Assam has been dominated by the corporate sector and the industry employs a good number of technocrats for the management of the tea estates. As tea is a specialized crop which requires technical knowledge in its cultivation and management, a thorough knowledge of all the agro-techniques is very much essential.

During the last few decades, small scale tea cultivation in the entire N.E.India, particularly in Assam, has become a popular and profitable venture among the common farmers. Suitable agro-climatic conditions, availability of market for green leaves etc. have helped this sector to grow so fast and presently more than 65,000 growers are cultivating tea in small holdings covering some one lakh ha land mainly in the upper Assam districts. Similarly, in the other states of this region, tea cultivation in small scale has become popular among the common farmers. However, the growers need some basic knowledge and skill for tea cultivation and for maintaining the plantations economically in a viable condition for a longer period.

This Skill Enhancement course is designed to impart the basic knowledge on the tea crop and its cultivation and management. Emphasis has also been laid in developing the skill and competency in carrying out the activities for starting tea cultivation and the maintenance of the gardens.

The course deals with

- The establishment of a tea plantation starting from the selection of the area and the land to planting of tea and bringing up the tea plants into the bearing stage.
- All the operations that need to be performed for the maintenance of the plantation as well as the harvesting of green leaves.

Besides, Learners need to do certain activities assigned to them and submit a field visit report with deailed activities.

UNIT 8 : Plant Protection

Tea pests- leaf and shoot pests, stem and branch pests, other pests. Sprayers, and application of pesticides, - sprayers, target sites for application, integrated pest management

Tea diseases- casual agencies and classification, common tea diseases, description of common tea diseases and their management, seedling diseases, primary and secondary diseases

UNIT 9: Physiological disorders and cold weather operations

Adverse climatic and soil conditions, external agencies, cold weather management.

UNIT 10: Cost development of Tea Plantation and record keeping in Tea garden

Cost development of Tea Plantation – requirement of labour, cost of labour and inputs, income, Record keeping-definition, good record keeping systems, branches of record keeping, books and accounts, information to be maintained in tea garden

Practical/ activities: After visiting a local tea garden, learners are required to submit a report detailing several fieldwork activities.