The Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990

Act 12 of 1990

Keyword(s):

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) ACT, 1990

(ASSAM ACT NO. XII OF 1990)

[Published in the Assam Gazette, Extraordinary No. 89 dated 25th May, 1990]

An Act to provide for imposition of a tax on specified land

Preamble

WHEREAS it is necessary to make an addition to the revenues: Assam and, for that purpose, it is expedient to impose a tax on certain categories of land and to provide for matters connected therewith;

It is hereby enacted in the Forty-First Year of the Republic of India as follows:

Short title, extent and Commencement

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.
(2) It shall extend to the whole of Assam.
(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the First day of January, 1990.

Definitions

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) "annual Productivity" in respect of any specified lane means the productivity of such land determined in accordance with section 4;
(b) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner appointed under sub-section (1) of section 15;

(bb) “crude oil” means petroleum in its natural state before it has been refined or otherwise treated but from which water and foreign substances have been extracted.

Amendment: In the principal Act, section 2, after clause (b), a new clause (bb) has been inserted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.

(c) "green tea leaves" means the plucked and unprocessed green leaves of the plant, Camellia Sinensis (L) O Kuntze;

(cc) “natural gas” means gas obtained from bore-holes and consisting primarily of hydrocarbons;

Amendment: In the principal Act, section 2, after clause (c), a new clause (cc) has been inserted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.
(d) "owner" in relation to any specified land means any person who is the immediate proprietor thereof or of any part thereof and includes, with reference to any specified land the possession of which or part whereof has been transferred by lease, mortgage or otherwise, the person to whom possession is so transferred so long as his right to possession subsists or, as the case may be, a liquidator, receiver, agent or any other person in charge of such specified land.

**Amendment:** In the principal Act, section 2, clause (d) has been substituted vide notification no. LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.

[Prior to this sub-clause (d) read as follows:

(d) "owner" in relation to any tea estate means any person who is the immediate proprietor thereof or of any part thereof and includes, with reference to a tea estate the possession of which or part whereof has been transferred by lease, mortgage or otherwise, the person to whom possession is so transferred so long as his right to possession subsists or, as the case may be, a liquidator, receiver, agent or any other person in charge of a tea estate;

(e) "person" means and includes -

(i) an individual;

(ii) a Hindu undivided or joint family;

(iii) a company;

(iv) a firm;

(v) an association of persons or body of individuals whether incorporated or not;

(vi) a department of any Government;

(vii) a local authority; and

(viii) every artificial juridical person, not falling within any of the preceding sub-clauses;

(/) 'prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(g) "section" means a section of this Act;

(h) Specified land means-

(i) any land used or intends to be used for growing tea and for purpose ancillary thereto or any part of such land, in this Act referred to as tea estate, or

(ii) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting coal or any part of such land, in this Act referred to as coal bearing land, or

(iii) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting crude oil or any part of such land, in the Act referred to as crude oil bearing land, or

(iv) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting natural gas or any part of such land, in the Act referred to as natural gas bearing land, or

(v) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting lime stone or any part of
such land, in the Act referred to lime-stone bearing land;

Amendment: In the principal Act, section 2, clause (h) has been substituted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.

Prior to this the clause (h) read as follow:

(h) "specified land" means - any land used or intended to be used for growing tea and for purposes ancillary thereto or any part of such land, in this Act referred to as tea estate;

(i) "State" means the State of Assam;

(j) "State Government" means the Government of Assam;

(k) 'tea' means the plant Camellia Sinensis (L) O Kuntze;

(l) "tax' means the tax due or levied under section 3.

Amendments: (1) The words "Coal mine or" occurring in the definition of "owner" contained in section 2(d) has been deleted by Assam Ordinance No. II of 1994, w.e.f. 1-2-1994. This Ordinance was replaced by Assam Act No. XXIV of published in the Assam Gazette on 6-5-1994.

Prior to the above amendment clause (d) read as under:

"(d) "owner" in relation to any coal mine or tea estate means any person who is the immediate proprietor thereof or of any part thereof includes, with reference to a coal mine or tea estate the possession of which or part whereof has been transferred by lease, mortgage or otherwise, the person to whom possession is so transferred long as his right to possession subsists or, as the case may . liquidator, receiver, agent or any other person in charge of s mine or tea estate;"

(2) The definition of "specified land" as contained in clause (h) of section 2 has been substituted w.e.f. 1-2-1994 by Assam Ordinance No. II of 1994. This Ordinance was subsequently repealed by Assam Act No. XXIV of 1994 published in the Assam Gazette on 6-5-1994.

Prior to its substitution, clause (h) read as under:

"(h) "specified land" means -

(i) any land used or intended to be used for growing tea and purposes ancillary thereto or any part of such land, in this referred to as tea estate, or

(ii) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting coal or any part of such land, in this Act referred to as coal mine:

Levy of tax

3. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force and subject to the provisions of this Act a tax shall levied and collected annually on and from the commencement of Act in respect of all specified lands in the State on the annual productivity of such land.

(2) Omitted.

Amendment: In the principal Act, in section 3, sub-section (2) has been omitted vide Notification
(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) and subject to sub-section (3) no tax shall be levied under sub-section (1) respect of a tea estate for any year during which the total area specified land owned or held by the owner and used for intended to be used by him during that year for growing tea and for purposes ancillary thereto does not exceed thirty Bighas.

(2A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) and (2) and subject to sub-section (3), no tax shall be levied under sub-section (1) in respect of tea estate owned by the Assam Tea Corporation Limited or a period of five years on from 1st January, 2005 during which the total area of specified land owned or held by the Assam Tea Corporation Limited and used for or intended to be used by them during those year for growing tea and for purposes ancillary thereto.

Provided that the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, extend the period of exemption for further periods, not exceeding one year at a time, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be specified in the said notification.

Amendment: In the principal Act, in section 3, after sub-section (2), a new sub-section (2A) has been inserted vide Notification no.LGL.42/2004/70 Dated 30th April, 2005 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary No.168 Dated 6th May, 2005.

(3) Omitted.

Amendment: In the principal Act, in section 3, sub-section (3) has been omitted vide Notification No.LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary No.52 Dated 12th February, 2009.

Prior to this the sub-section (3) read as follows:

(3) A Hindu undivided or joint family or firm shall be eligible for the exemption under sub-section (2) only if the aggregate area of all specified lands owned or held by each member of the family or firm and used or intended to be used jointly by the said family or firm for growing tea and purposes ancillary thereto does not exceed thirty Bighas.

Amendments: This section originally appeared as under:

"3. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force and subject to the provisions of this Act a tax shall be levied and collected annually on and from the commencement of this Act in respect of all specified lands in the State on the annual productivity of such land.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) and subject to sub-sections (3) and (4) no tax shall be levied under sub-section (1) in respect of a tea estate for any year during which the total area of specified land owned or held by the owner and used for intended to be used by him during that year for growing tea and for purposes ancillary thereto does not exceed thirty Bighas."
(3) The exemption under sub-section (2) shall be admissible for a period of five years -

(a) from the first day of January, 1990 in case of an owner who was engaged in growing tea at the commencement of this Act; and

(b) in any other case for a period of five years from the date of commencement of production of green tea leaves by the owner.

Explanation.- For the purposes of clause (b) production of green tea leaves by an owner shall be deemed to have commenced on the date from which green tea leaves are plucked for the purpose of processing either by himself or by any other person.

(4) A Hindu undivided or joint family or firm shall be eligible for the exemption under sub-section (2) only if the aggregate area of all specified lands owned or held by each member of the family or firm and used or intended to be used jointly by the said family or firm for growing tea and purposes ancillary thereto does not exceed thirty Bighas.

(1) In sub-section (2) the words, figure and bracket, "and (4)" occurring after "sub section (3)" was omitted by Assam Act No. VII of 1997 w.e.f. 31-3-1997.

(2) Sub-section (3) was omitted and the existing sub-section (4) was renumbered as sub-section (3) by Assam Act No. VII of 1997 w.e.f. 31-3-1997.

**Determination of annual productivity.**

4. The annual productivity of specified land in respect of any year shall be determined by aggregating,-

(i) In case of tea estate, the quantity in kilograms of green tea leaves produced in the tea estate during the year and after deducting therefrom such quantity of such green tea leaves as is required to be deducted by virtue of any provision of this Act or rules thereunder;

(ii) in case of a coal bearing land, the quantity in metric tones of coal extracted or obtained from such land during the year;

(iii) in case of a crude oil bearing land, the quantity in metric tones of crude oil extracted from such land during the year;

(iv) in case of natural gas bearing land, the quantity in cubic metre of natural gas produced from such land during the year;

(iv) in case of lime stone bearing land, the quantity in metric tones of lime-stone extracted from such land during the year;

Provided that in respect of a specified land which yields more than one item, the productivity of all such items taken together shall be the annual productivity of such specified land:

Provided further that in determining the annual productivity of specified land under this section, a fraction of kilogram, metric tonne or cubic metre, as the case may be, shall be ignored.
Amendment: In the principal Act, section 4 has been substituted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.

[Prior to this the section (4) read as follow:

4. The annual productivity of any land in respect of any year shall be determined by aggregating the quantity in kilograms of green tea leaves produced in the tea estate during the year, and after deducting therefrom such quantity of green tea leaves as is required to be deducted by virtue of any provision of this Act or rules thereunder:

Provided that in determining the annual productivity of any land under this section a fraction of kilogram shall be ignored.]

Amendments: (1) Section 4 has been substituted w.e.f. 1-2-1994 by Assam Ordinance No. II of 1994. This Ordinance was repealed by Assam Act No. XXIV of 1994 published in the Assam Gazette on 6-5-1994.

Prior to its substitution, section 4 originally, stood as under:

"4. The annual productivity of any land in respect of any year shall be determined by aggregating -

(i) in case of a tea estate, the quantity in kilograms of green tea leaves produced in the tea estate during the year, and

(ii) in case of a coal mine, the quantity in metric tones of coal extracted or obtained from such mine during the year;

and after deducting therefrom such quantity of green tea leaves or, as the case may be, coal as is required to be deducted by virtue of any provision of this Act or rules thereunder:

Provided that in determining the annual productivity of any land under this section a fraction of kilogram or as the case may be, metric tone shall be ignored."

Rate of tax

5. The rate of tax under section 3 shall be as follows: -

(a) in case of a tea estate, for every kilogram of the annual productivity of such tea estate shall be-

(i) omitted.

(ii) twenty five paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner does not exceed forty hectares;

(iii) forty paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner exceeds forty hectares;

(iv) notwithstanding anything contained in clause (c), if the specified lands exceeding forty hectares falls in Barak Valley the rates of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the estate shall be thirty five paise.

Amendment: In the principal Act, in section 5, clause (a) has been substituted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/92 Dated 29th August, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no.

Prior to this the clause (a) read as follow:

(i) Omitted

(ii) twenty paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner does not exceed forty hectares;

(iii) thirty two paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner exceeds forty hectares;

(iv) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (c), if the specified lands exceeding forty hectares falls in Barak Valley the rates of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the estate shall be nine twenty nine paise;

(b) in case of a coal bearing land, fifty rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land;

(c) in case of crude oil bearing land, two hundred rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land;

(d) in case of a natural gas bearing land, one hundred rupees for every thousand cubic metre of the annual productivity of such land; and

(e) in case of lime-stone bearing land, ten rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land.

Amendment: In the principal Act, section 5, in clause (a), sub-clause (i) has been omitted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 51 Dated 12th February, 2009.

Amendment: In the principal Act, section 5 has been substituted vide notification no.LGL.42/2004/10 Dated 29th December, 2004 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no. 262 Dated 29th December, 2004.

[Prior to this the section 5 read as follows:

5. The rate of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the tea estate shall be -

(a) nil, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person does not exceed four hectares;

(b) twenty paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person does not exceed forty hectares;

(c) thirty two paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person exceeds forty hectares;

(d) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (c), if the specified lands exceeding forty hectares falls in Valley the rates of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the estate shall be nine twenty nine paise.]
Amendments: This section originally stood, as under:

"5. The rate of tax under section 3 shall be as follows:

(i) In case of a tea estate, fifty paise for every kilogramme of the annual productivity of the tea estate; and

(ii) In case of a coal mine, one hundred rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of the coal mine."

(1) Clause (ii) of section 5, mentioned above was deleted w.e.f. 1-2-1994 by Assam Ordinance No. II of 1994 which was subsequently replaced by Assam Act No. XXIV of 1994 published in the Assam Gazette of 6-5-1994.

(2) The words "fifty paise" occurring in clause (i) of original provision was substitute; by the words "eighteen paise" by Assam Ordinance No. IV of 1994 with retrospective effect from 1-1-1990. The Ordinance was subsequently replaced by Assam Act No. XXVII of 1994 published in the Assam Gazette on 6-5-1994.

(3) The original section 5 as amended above was fully substituted by the following -provision vide Assam Act No. VII of 1997 w.e.f. 31-3-1997.

(4) In clause (c) of the substituted section, the words "twenty seven" has been replaced by the words "twenty nine" by Assam Act No. VI of 1998 w.e.f. 1-4-1998.

"5. The rate of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the tea estate shall be -

(a) nil, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person does not exceed four hectares;
(b) twenty paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person does not exceed forty hectares;
(c) thirty paise, - if the aggregate area of specified lands held by a person exceeds forty hectares;
(d) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (c), if the specified lands exceeding forty hectares falls in Barak Valley the rates of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the estate shall be twenty seven paise."

(4) In clause (c) of the substituted section, the words "thirty" has been substituted by words, "thirty two" by Assam Act No. VI of 1998 w.e.f. 1-4-1998.

Tax by whom to be paid and manner of payment

6. The tax in respect of any specified land shall be paid by the owner thereof in such manner (including payment in advance) for such period by such date as may be prescribed.

See: Rule 4 / Form 1, 2 & 3

Deduction of tax at source

6A. Every person engaged in the manufacture of tea and responsible for making any payment or discharging any liability on account of any amount purported to be the full or part payment of sale price or consideration for purchase of green tea leaf shall, at the time of credit to the account of or payment to the seller of such amount in cash, by cheque, by adjustment or in any manner,
whosoever, deduct tax calculated at the rate of 25 paise per kilogram and deposit the same in the State Exchequer in such manner as may be prescribed.

**Amendment:** In the principal Act, in section 6A, for the figure and word “20 paise” appearing between the words “tax calculated at rate of” and “per kilogram” the figure and word “25 paise” has been substituted vide Notification no. LGL.41/2004/106 Dated 29th April 2010 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary No. 112 Dated 29th April 2010.

**Tax deducted at source number to be obtained by the Purchaser of Green Tea Leaves**

**6B.** (1) Every purchase of green tea leaves who is liable to deduct and deposit tax as per provision of section 6A of the Act shall obtain a tax deduction number from such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed. The number shall be quoted in such documents, statements and returns as may be prescribed.

(2) The person making any deduction of tax under section 6A and paying it into Government account shall issue to the payee a certificate of tax deduction and payment in such form and manner and within such time as may be prescribed.

(3) Any deduction made in accordance with the provision of section 6A and credited into Government account shall be treated as payment of tax on behalf of the owner from whose bills and invoices, the deduction has been made and credit shall be given to him for the amount so deducted on the production of the certificate prescribed in this regard, towards the amount of tax finally assessed or determined as being payable by the concerned owner in the assessment for the relevant year.

**Amendment:** In the principal Act, after section 6, two new section 6A and 6B has been inserted vide notification no. LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no.51 Dated 12th February, 2009.

**Registration of owner**

7. Every owner shall get himself registered with such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed.

**Return of tax**

8. Every owner shall file a return showing the amount of tax payable by him in such form, for such period, by such date and to such authority as may be prescribed.

**Submission of return and statement of deduction of tax.**

**8A.** Every purchaser of green tea leaves who is liable to deduct and deposit tax as per provision of section 6A shall file a return showing the amount of tax deducted and deposit by him on whose behalf, in such form, for such period, by such date and to such authority as may be prescribed.

**Amendment:** In the principal Act, after section 8, a new section 8A has been inserted vide notification no. LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no.51
Dated 12th February, 2009.

Assessment of tax

9. The tax shall be assessed by such authority and in such manner as be prescribed and, if the return furnished under section 8 is not accepted, the owner shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before making such assessment.

Appeal, revision, etc.

10. Appeal, revision, review and reference, as the case may be, an order of assessment or other orders relating to the tax shall be such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed.

(Recovery and refund of tax)

11. Recovery of any tax or penalty assessed under the Act or refund of any amount of tax found after assessment to have been paid in excess, shall be made in the manner prescribed.

Penalty for non-payment of tax assessed

12. (1) If any owner defaults in payment of any tax assessed under section 9 he shall be liable to pay by way of penalty in addition to the tax assessed an amount not exceeding the amount of tax assessed and remaining unpaid.

(2) The penalty under sub-section (1) may be levied by such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed.

Explanation- An owner shall be deemed to be in default for the purposes of this section if he fails to pay the tax assessed or any part thereof by the prescribed date.

Interest for delayed payment

12 A. If any owner does not pay the full amount of tax as per provision of this Act or the Rules made thereunder, by the date on which it falls due, simple interest at the rate of two percentum per mensem with effect from the 1st day of the following month shall be payable by him on the amount by which the tax paid falls short of the tax payable. No interest under this section shall, however, be payable if the amount of tax is paid by the aforesaid due date is not less than ninety percentum of the tax payable.

Interest for non-deduction and non-deposit of deducted tax.

12B. If any purchase of green tea leaves fails to make the deduction or after deducting fails to deposit the amount so deducted, he shall be liable to pay simple interest at the rate of one and half percent per month on the amount deductible under section 6A but not so deducted and, if deducted but not deposited, from the date on which such amount was deductible to the date on which such amount is actually deposited into the Government account.
Penalty for non-deduction and non-deposit of deducted tax.

12C. If a purchaser of green tea leaves being liable to deduct tax and pay the same to the credit of the State Government under section 6A, fails to deduct tax or fails to deposit after deduction or fails to furnish, without reasonable cause, any return or statement as required under section 8A in the prescribed manner and within the prescribed time, the authority prescribed to assess tax under the Act, may, after giving such purchaser of green tea leaf a reasonable opportunity of being heard, by an order in writing setting forth such particulars as may be prescribed as may be specified, direct that he shall pay, in addition to any tax, an amount of penalty not exceeding the amount not deducted and paid or not paid after deduction.

Amendment: In the principal Act, after section 12A, two new sections 12B and 12C has been inserted by notification no. LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no.51 Dated 12th February, 2009.

Offences

13. If any owner fails without reasonable cause to get himself registered under section 7 or in any way evades or attempts to evade payment of tax payable by him under this Act, he shall, on conviction before a Magistrate and in addition to any tax or penalty or both that may be due from him, be punishable with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine of one thousand rupees or with a further fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for every day during which such offence continues after first conviction:

Provided that no Court shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this section except with the previous sanction of the prescribed authority and no Court inferior to that of a Magistrate of the first class shall try such offence.

Punishment for failure to deduct and deposit tax deducted at source.

13 A. If a purchaser of green tea leaves, who is liable to deduct tax under section 6A, fails to do so, or after making deduction fails to deposit the same within the time stipulated, shall on conviction before a Magistrate and in addition to any tax or penalty or both that may be due from him, be punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year:

Provided that no Court shall take cognizance of offence punishable under this section except with the previous sanction of the prescribed authority.

Amendment: In the principal Act, after section 13, a new section 13A has been inserted notification no. LGL.42/2004/83 Dated 12th February, 2009 published in the Assam Gazette Extraordinary no.51 Dated 12th February, 2009.

Composition of offences

14. (1) Subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, the present authority may, either before or after institution of criminal proceedings under this Act accept from the person who has committed or is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence under this Act. or the rules made thereunder, by
way of composition of such offence—

(a) where the offence consists of evasion or attempted evasion of tax, in addition to the tax, a sum of money not exceeding double the amount of the tax; and

(b) in any other case a sum of money not exceeding one thousand rupees in addition to the tax.

(2) On payment of the sum as may be determined by the prescribed authority under sub-section (1), no further proceedings shall be taken against the person concerned in respect of the same offence.

Taxing and other authorities

15. (1) The State Government may, for carrying out the purposes of this Act, appoint a Commissioner and such other persons to assist him as it think fit

(2) The persons appointed under sub-section (1) shall exercise such powers and perform such duties and functions as may be prescribed.

(3) The Commissioner shall exercise jurisdiction throughout the State and persons appointed under sub-section (1) to assist him shall exercise their powers within such areas or, as the case may be, in respect of such persons or such cases as the Commissioner may specify by notification made in this behalf.

(4) All persons appointed under sub-section (1) shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code (XLV of 1860).

Delegation of powers

16. The powers, functions and duties of the Commissioner under this or the rules made thereunder may be delegated by him by notification to any person appointed under sub-section (1) of section to assist him.

Power to make rules

17. (1) The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for securing payment of the tax and generally for purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers such rules may provide for all or any of the matters which may be or are required to be prescribed.

(3) In making rules the State Government may direct that a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine, not exceeding five hundred rupees, and when the offence is a continuing one, with a daily fine not exceeding twenty five rupees during the continuance of the offence.

(4) The fine provided under sub-section (3) may be levied -such authority and shall be payable and recoverable in such manner as may be prescribed.
(5) The powers to make rules conferred by this section shall except on the first occasion of the exercise thereof, be subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

**Power to remove difficulties**

**18.** If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by general or special order, do anything not inconsistent with such provisions which appears to it to be necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing the difficulty.
ASSAM ACT NO. XXVI OF 2004

(Received the assent of the Governor on 28th December, 2004)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2004

AN ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2004.

(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the first day of January, 2004.

Amendment of section 2.

2. In the principal Act, in section 2,—

(i) after clause (b), a new clause (bb) shall be inserted, namely:

"(bb) "crude oil" means petroleum in its natural state before it has been refined or otherwise treated but from which water and foreign substances have been extracted;"

(ii) after clause (c), a new clause (cc) shall be inserted, namely:

"(cc) "natural gas" means gas obtained from bore-holes and consisting primarily of hydrocarbons;"

(iii) for clause (d), the following shall be substituted, namely:

" "Owner" in relation to any specified land means any person who is the immediate proprietor thereof or of any part thereof and includes, with reference to any specified land the possession of which or part whereof has been transferred by lease, mortgage or otherwise, the person to whom possession is so transferred so long as his right to possession subsists or, as the case may be, a liquidator, receiver, agent or any other person in-charge of such specified land."

(iv) for clause (h), the following shall be substituted, namely:

"(h) Specified land means—"
Amendment of section 5.

4. In the principal Act, for section 5, the following shall be substituted, namely:

"Rate of tax.

5. The rate of tax under section 3, shall be as follows:

(a) in case of a tea estate, for every kilogram of the annual productivity of such estate shall be-

(i) nil, if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner does not exceed four hectares;

(ii) twenty paise, if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner does not exceed forty hectares;

(iii) thirty two paise, if the aggregate area of specified lands held by an owner exceeds forty hectares;

(iv) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (c), if the specified lands exceeding forty hectares falls in Barak Valley the rates of tax under section 3 for every kilogram of the annual productivity of the estate shall be twenty nine paise;

(b) in case of a coal bearing land, fifty rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land;

(c) in case of a crude oil bearing land, two hundred rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land;

(d) in case of a natural gas bearing land, one hundred rupees for every thousand cubic metre of the annual productivity of such land; and

(e) in case of a lime-stone bearing land, ten rupees for every metric tonne of the annual productivity of such land."

M. K. DEKA
Commissioner & Secy. to the Govt. of Assam.
Legislative Department, Dispur.

GIWAHATI: Printed & Published by the Dy. Director (P&S), Directorate of Ptg. & Sty.,
(i) any land used or intended to be used for growing tea and
for purposes ancillary thereto or any part of such land, in
this Act referred to as tea estate, or

(ii) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting
coal or any part of such land, in this Act referred to as coal
bearing land, or

(iii) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting
crude oil or any part of such land, in the Act referred to as
crude oil bearing land, or

(iv) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting
natural gas or any part of such land, in the Act referred to
as natural gas bearing land, or

(v) any land held for the purpose of obtaining or extracting
lime stone or any part of such land, in the Act referred to
lime-stone bearing land;

Amendment
of section 4.

3. In the principal Act, for section 4, the following shall be substituted, namely:

"Determination of annual productivity.

4. The annual productivity of specified land in respect of any year shall be
determined by aggregating-

(i) in case of a tea estate, the quantity in kilograms of green tea leaves
produced in the tea estate during the year and after deducting
therefrom such quantity of such green tea leaves as is required to
be deducted by virtue of any provision of this Act or rules
thereunder;

(ii) in case of a coal bearing land, the quantity in metric tonnes of coal
extracted or obtained from such land during the year;

(iii) in case of a crude oil bearing land, the quantity in metric tonnes of
crude oil extracted from such land during the year;

(iv) in case of a natural gas bearing land, the quantity in cubic metre of
natural gas produced from such land during the year;

(v) in case of a lime stone bearing land, the quantity in metric tonnes
of lime-stone extracted from such land during the year;

Provided that in respect of a specified land which yields more than
one item, the productivity of all such items taken together shall be the
annual productivity of such specified land;

THE ASSAM GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY APRIL 19, 2005

ASSAM ACT NO. XII OF 2005
(Received the assent of the Governor on 18th April, 2005)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LAND) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2005

AN

ACT

to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2004.

Preamble.
Whereas it is expedient to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2004, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;
It is hereby enacted in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified lands) (Amendment) Act, 2005.
(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.
(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the principal Act, in section 1, in sub-section (3), for the existing provisions, the following shall be substituted, namely :-
"(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the first day of January, 2005".

M. A. HAQUE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur.

ASSAM ACT NO. XVI OF 2005

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (SECOND AMENDMENT)
ACT, 2005

AN ACT

...to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing:

It is hereby enacted in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Republic of India

as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Second Amendment) Act, 2005.

(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the first day of January, 2005.

2. In the principal Act, in section 3, after sub-section (2), a new sub-section (2A) shall be inserted, namely:

“(2A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-sections (1) and (2) and subject to sub-section (3), no tax shall be levied under sub-section (1) in respect of a tea estate owned by the Assam Tea Corporation Limited for a period of five years on and from 1st January, 2005 during which the total area of specified land owned or held by the Assam Tea Corporation Limited and used for or intended to be used by them during those year for growing tea and for purposes ancillary thereto.

Provided that the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, extend the period of exemption for further periods, not exceeding one year at a time, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be specified in the said notification.”

M. K. DEKA,
Commissioner & Secy. to the Govt. of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur.

GUWAHATI- Printed & Published by the Dy. Director (P&S), Directorate of Ptg. & Sty., Assam, Guwahati-21, (Ex-Gazette) No. 335-500-600-6-5-2005.
THE ASSAM GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT :: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

NOTIFICATION

The 29th August, 2009

No.LGL.42/2004/92 :- The following Act of the Assam Legislative Assembly which received the assent of the Governor is hereby published for general information.

ASSAM ACT NO. XX OF 2009
(Received the assent of Governor on 26th August, 2009)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (SECOND AMENDMENT) ACT, 2009
AN ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Sixtieth Year of Republic of India as follows:-

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Second Amendment) Act, 2009.

(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

(3) It shall come into force on the first day of January, 2010.

Amendment of section 5.

2. In the principal Act, in section 5, in clause (a),—

(i) in sub-clause (ii), for the words “twenty paise”, the words “twenty five paise” shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-clause (iii), for the words “thirty two paise”, the words “forty paise” shall be substituted;

(iii) in sub-clause (iv), for the words “twenty nine paise”, the words “thirty five paise” shall be substituted.

MOHD. A. HAQUE,
Secretary to the Government of Assam
Legislative Department, Dispur.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT :: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

NOTIFICATION

The 4th September, 2019

No. LGL. 42/2004/151.— The following Act of the Assam Legislative Assembly which received the assent of the Governor on 26th August, 2019 is hereby published for general information.

ASSAM ACT NO. XV OF 2019
(Received the assent of the Governor on 26th August, 2019)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2019
AN ACT
further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2019.
   (2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.
   (3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the principal Act, in section 3, after sub-section (2A), the following new sub-section (2B), shall be inserted, namely:-

   "(2B) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), no tax shall be levied under sub-section (1) in respect of green tea leaves grown or bought by the tea estates for a period of three years on and from the 1st January, 2019."

S. M. BUZAR BARUAH,
Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6

Guwahati :- Printed and Published by the Dy. Director, Directorate of Printing & Stationery, Assam, Guwahati-21.
Ex. Gazette No. 747 - 300 + 10 - 04 - 09 - 2019. (visit at-dpns.assam.gov.in)
THE ASSAM GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

The 4th December, 2018

No. LGL. 42/2004/142.-- The following Act of the Assam Legislative Assembly which received the assent of the Governor on 15th November, 2018 is hereby published for general information.

ASSAM ACT NO. XXVIII OF 2018
(Received the assent of the Governor on 15th November, 2018)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2018
AN ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Preamble

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Sixty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short title, extent and commencement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) It shall come into force at once.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amendment of Section 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. In the principal Act, in Section 5, in clause (a), in sub-clause (ii), for the words “ten paise”, the word “nil” shall be substituted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deletion of Sections 6A and 6B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. In the principal Act, Sections 6A and 6B, respectively, shall be deleted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Notwithstanding the deletion of sections 6A and 6B of the principal Act under the foregoing provision of Section 3, any action, thing or proceeding, as the case may be, which could have been validly taken, done or continued for the levy, collection or imposition of penalty etc. in respect of any tax at any time under the provisions so deleted or any other provisions of the principal Act corresponding thereto, but had not been taken, done or continued before the commencement of this Amendment Act, may be taken, done or continued, as if the provisions of Sections 6A and 6B have not been deleted in respect of any such action, thing or proceeding, as the case may be.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S. M. BUZAR BARUAH,
Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6.
THE ASSAM GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY

No. 246 Dispur, Saturday, 3rd June, 2017, 13th Jaistha, 1939 (S.E.)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT:: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

NOTIFICATION

The 1st June, 2017

No. LGL. 42/2004/133.— The following Act of the Assam Legislative Assembly which received the assent of the Governor on 24th May, 2017 is hereby published for general information.

ASSAM ACT NO. XXIX OF 2017
(Received the assent of the Governor on 24th May, 2017)
THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2017
AN

ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Sixty-eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2017.

   (2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

   (3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the principal Act, in Section 5, in clause (a), in sub-clause (ii), for the words, “fifteen paisa”, the words “ten paisa” shall be substituted.

3. In the principal Act, in Section 6A, for the words “fifteen paisa”, the words “ten paisa” shall be substituted.

S. M. BUZAR BARUAH,
Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Legislative Department, Dispur.

Guwahati: Printed and Published by the Dy. Director (P & S), Directorate of Printing & Stationery, Assam, Guwahati-21.
ASSAM ACT NO. XX OF 2021

(Received the assent of the Governor on 9th September, 2021)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2021
AN ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990

Whereas, it is expedient to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India, as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2021.

(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In the Principal Act, after Section 7, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:

"Applicability of the provisions of the Assam Value Added Tax Act, 2003 and the rules, orders or notifications made or issued thereunder relating to amendment, cancellation and suspension of registration, penalty for non-filing of returns, special mode of recovery, retention of accounts, requirement to provide information, transfer of liability of any firm or Hindu undivided family to pay tax in the event of dissolution of such firm or partition of such family, inspection, search and seizure, power to call for information, bar to certain proceedings, indemnity, treatment of documents furnished by dealer as confidential and other matters for which no specific provision has been made in this Act and the rules made thereunder, shall mutatis mutandis apply, to the owner or purchase of green tea leaves in respect of tax levied or deducted and payable under this Act, as if those provisions were mutatis mutandis incorporated in this Act and the rules framed and orders and notification issued under those provisions were mutatis mutandis framed or issued under the relevant provisions so incorporated under this Act."
3. In the Principal Act, after Section 16, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:—

"Automation. 16A. (1) The Government shall introduce and establish an automated data processing system for complementing the purposes of this Act and for matters incidental and allied thereto.

(2) The Government may from time to time make Regulations for regulating the interactions between the owner/purchaser of green tea leaves and the authorities appointed or constituted under this Act.

(3) The provisions contained in the Information and Technology Act, 2000, and the Rules made and directions given under the Act, including the provisions relating to digital signatures, electronic records, electronic governance, attribution, acknowledgement and dispatch of electronic records, securing electronic records and securing digital signatures and digital signature certificates, shall in so far as they may apply to the procedures shall apply to this Act.

(4) Except as may be provided otherwise in this Act, the software for the automated data processing system, the operating system, the operating instructions and the criteria for any selection shall be treated as confidential.

(5) The Commissioner of Taxes may, by notification in the Official Gazette, with the prior approval of Government, prescribe procedures for e-filing of returns and e-payment of taxes."

GEETANJALI DAS SAIKIA,
Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6
NOTIFICATION

The 14th October, 2022

No. LGL.165/2022/3.– The following Act of the Assam Legislative Assembly which received the assent of the Governor of Assam on 30th September, 2022 is hereby published for general information.

ASSAM ACT NO. XL OF 2022
(Received the assent of the Governor on 30th September, 2022)

THE ASSAM TAXATION (ON SPECIFIED LANDS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2022
AN
ACT

further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990.

Preamble

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) Act, 1990, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, in the manner hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

Short title, extent and commencement

1. (1) This Act may be called the Assam Taxation (On Specified Lands) (Amendment) Act, 2022.

(2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

Amendment of section 3

2. In the principal Act, in section 3,—

(i) in sub-section (2B), in the fifth line, for the punctuation mark “.” appearing at the end, the punctuation mark “:” shall be substituted and thereafter the following new proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that no tax shall be levied for a further period of three years on and from the 1st day of January, 2022.”.

(ii) after sub-section (2B), the following new sub-section (2C), shall be inserted, namely:—

“(2C) The State Government may in the public interest by notification in the Official Gazette, exempt any specified land or the owner thereof from the payment of whole or any part of the tax payable under this Act subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified in such notification. Such exemption shall take effect from the date of publication of such notification in the Official Gazette, or such other date as may be mentioned in such notification, but such date shall not be before the date of commencement of this amendment Act.”.

GEETANJALI DAS SAIKIA,
Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Legislative Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6.