

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

NOTIFICATION

No. ENV.4/2021/17

Dated Shillong the 25th May, 2022

Guidelines for utilisation of Compensation amount for restoration of environment in the State

Whereas Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 24th September, 2021 in OA No. 172/2016/EZ (*Sanjay Laloo Vs State of Meghalaya and others*) has directed State Government to pay compensation @ Rs. 10 lakhs per month for delay in setting up of STP and Rs. 5 lakhs per month for delay in providing interim remediation measures w.e.f. 01.04.2020;

Whereas Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 24th November 2021 in OA No. 172/2016/EZ directed that compensation to be payable by State Government shall be credited to a separate account with the Environment Department of the State and shall be used for restoration of environment in the State of Meghalaya;

Whereas Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 7th March, 2022 in OA No. 172/2016/EZ directed that compensation amount to be paid shall be utilised for implementation of remedial action plan prepared for preventing pollution of Myntdu river;

Now therefore, the following guidelines have been notified for utilisation of Compensation amount deposited by the Urban Department in an efficient, effective and transparent manner for the purpose of restoration of environment and for necessary remedial and preventive measures with regard to environment and matters related therein in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya:-

- 1. Steering Committee.-** (1) The Steering Committee at State level shall comprise of following members :-

SL. No	Name and designation	Designation in the Governing body
1.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HOFF	Chairman
2.	Director, Urban Affairs Department	Members
3.	Chief Engineer, PHE	
4.	Chairman, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board	
5.	Chief Conservator of Forests (SF&E)	Member secretary
6.	One non-official members/non-governmental organization having expertise in the field of Environment	Non-official member

(2) Powers and functions of the Steering Committee:- The Steering Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- a) Assessment of administrative feasibility and prioritization of various activities to be undertaken from the compensation amount;
- b) Determine project area for undertaking various activities under the compensation amount;
- c) To examine and process the received proposals for restoration of environment damaged;
- d) To approve the received proposals for restoration of environment;
- e) Ensuring Inter-departmental Coordination; and
- f) To examine the Annual Action Plans submitted by the District Level Executing Committee and to monitor the progress of the utilization of the compensation amount and review the progress of the projects.

2. District Level Executing Committee.- (1) District Level Executing Committee shall be constituted in West Jaintia Hills District for restoration of environment damaged with following members: -

SL. No	Name and designation	Designation
1.	Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District	Chairman
2.	District Urban Planner, West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	Members
3.	CEO, Jowai Municipal Board	
4.	Executive Engineer, PIIE Jowai	
5.	Representative from the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board	
6.	Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry Division, Jaintia Hills, Jowai	Member secretary

(2) Powers and functions of the District Level Executing Committee:

- a) Take all steps for implementation of various activities for the restoration of environment in project areas;
- b) Preparation of Annual Action Plans as per the projects approved by the Steering Committee for various activities;
- c) Submission of Annual Action Plans to the Steering Committee;
- d) Execute, coordinate and supervise the Annual Action Plans and the approved projects with the assistance from line Departments; and
- e) Maintain the books of accounts and place before the Steering Committee for approval.

3. Operation of Account.-

- 1) Funds accrued under the compensation amount shall be kept under Savings Bank Account in a Nationalised Bank.
- 2) The account shall be operated under joint signature of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HOFF, Forest and Secretary, Forest and Environment Department
- 3) The Member Secretary of the Steering committee shall maintain the books of accounts for this Fund.

4. Activities.- (1) the compensation amount shall be utilised for following activities:-

- a) Implementation of remedial action plan prepared for preventing and remedying pollution of Myntdu river;
- b) Setting up solid waste processing facility and waste recovery centres;
- c) Capital expenditure required for door to door collection of segregated waste and its transportation in vehicles to the processing facility and sanitary landfill;
- d) Capital expenditure required for prevention of dumping of garbage into the River.
- e) Implementation of action plan for restoration of Myntdu river; and
- f) Any other activity felt necessary for restoration of environment on account of damage caused to it in West Jaintia Hills District.

5. Accounts and Audit.-

- (1) The Member Secretary of District Level Executive Committee shall maintain books of accounts, documents and records in respect of compensation amount;
- (2) The accounts shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General or any other person appointed by him in this connection;
- (3) The District Level Executive Committee shall submit Annual Report and Audited Report to Steering Committee.

Sd/-

(Syed Md Andaleeb Razi, IRTS)
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Forests and Environment Department

Memo No. ENV.4/2021/17-A

Dated Shillong the 25th May, 2022

Copy to :-

1. P.S to the Minister i/c Forests and Environment Department for kind information of the Hon'ble Minister.
2. P.S to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya for kind information of the Chief Secretary

3. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Urban Affairs Department.
4. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, PHE Department.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF Meghalaya Shillong for information and necessary action.
6. The Chairman, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board for information.
7. The Deputy Commissioner West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai for information and necessary action.
8. The Director Urban Affairs Meghalaya, Shillong.
9. The Chief Engineer PHE Department
10. The Chief Executive Officer, Jowai Municipal Board.
11. The Director of Printing and Stationary, Meghalaya, Shillong with a request to publish the Notification in Meghalaya Gazette.
12. State Informatics Officer, NIC Shillong Meghalaya with request to upload in Government website.

By order etc.,



Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Forests and Environment Department