

**BEFORE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

IN

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 606 OF 2018

IN THE MATTER OF:


**COMPLIANCE OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES, 2016 AND
OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

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New Delhi



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Observation note by the Amicus Curie to Status Report/ Compliance Affidavit filed by the Respondent State of Mizoram

Mizoram is a predominantly hilly and forest-rich State situated in the North-East of India, and its river systems and biodiversity are acutely vulnerable to the adverse consequences of improper solid waste and liquid waste management.

It is respectfully submitted that the undernoted observations emerge from the six monthly progress report filed in the above-captioned matter by the Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram, Sh. R. Zarzosanga on 29.04.26.

The Amicus Curiae respectfully draws the attention of this Hon'ble Tribunal to the significant data gaps, critical non-compliances, and structural deficiencies apparent from the Report, and offers the following observations and suggestions for the consideration and directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

S.NO	TOPIC	OBSERVATION
1.	Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Total population in the State- 1,091, 014 (as per 2011 census) ii. Approx estimated population for 2026- 1.27 to 1.37 million. (Mizoram.nic.in) iii. Total ULBs- 28

2.	Solid Waste Annx 1, pg. 745- 748	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GAP- 203.45 TPD ii. Total waste generated- 300.21 TPD (dry waste- 188.27 TPD) iii. Wet/ Biodegradable waste generated- 80.23 TPD iv. Total waste collected- 281.12 TPD v. Total waste transported- 281.12 TPD vi. GAP in waste generated and collected/ transported- 19.09 TPD vii. Total waste processed- 0 TPD (no processing facility/ plant) viii. Total waste disposed in landfill- 203.45 TPD ix. MRFs- 75 TPD at Laungmaul in Aizwal under constructon, timeline- July 2026 x. SWMC- operational in 2 ULBs, namely, Aizwal (defective for 10 months) and Kolasib xi. WTE Plant- None xii. C& D plant- not mentioned xiii. Authorised waste recyclers- xiv. Bio- methanation plant- not mentioned xv. Sanitary waste collection & processing- not mentioned xvi. Inert & Silt- 16.41 TPD is generated. xvii. Flyash & bottom Ash (WTE)- NA xviii. Compost utilised- wet waste is utilised for animal feed in rural areas, crop cultivation etc. Home composting is introduced under State flagship program, '<i>Mizoram Bana Kaih</i>' (handholding) Scheme 2024. xix. Quality of compost- xx. Electronic waste collected- not mentioned xxi. Electronic waste disposed- not mentioned xxii. Plastic waste/ cardboard/ recyclables- scrap dealers xxiii. Other information- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) MRF under construction- 28 (timeline- March 27)
3.	Legacy waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GAP- 100% ii. Total identified LWS (Legacy Waste Site)- 28 iii. Total legacy waste- 104108.74 MT iv. Daily waste received- 203.45 TPD

	Annex 1, pg. 745- 748	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. WTE Plant- None vi. Inert & Silt disposal- NA vii. RDF utilisation- NA viii. Leachate disposal- No information provided ix. Total land recovered- 0 Acres x. Site Remediation plan for LWS (soil & ground water)- NA xi. Utilisation plan for recovered land from LWS- NA xii. Other info- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Financial assistance sought- from MoHUA b) Subsidised transportation cost sought- from MoHUA (for transportation of combustible waste to cement factories and WTE) c) Financial approval for remediation of landfill sought- MoHUA d) Remediation to be completed- September 2027
4.	Liquid waste Annex 2, 749- 753	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GAP- 35.8 MLD (or 34.8 MLD) ii. Total sewage generation- 35.8 MLD iii. Total STPs- 1 MLD @ Aizawl (The severe underutilisation of the Aizawl STP suggests absence of sewerage network connections and requires immediate investigation and remediation.) iv. STP operational capacity- 10 MLD v. STP utilised capacity- 1 MLD vi. Final discharge point- Approx. 99 Himalayan Rivers are being contaminated with sewage, namely, Tlawng, Tuirial, Vai, Lungsum, Bellei, Bawngpuri, Mangkhawang, Haldar, Bangla, Bakpuk, tuithuk, Beraw, Nghasih, Sipai, Ruangte, Laisawar, Haipui, Vaipek, Thang, Kang, Sihdarh, Tuisen, Mukte, Tuichang, Keilungliah, Thingzai, Chengkawl, Sahri, Chhimtuipui, Siaha chava, Tuitlawk, Ferry, Ramchhuah, Rihte, Mat, Khuai, Pu dawn, Tuipui, Herhse, Dap, Tut, Teirei, Kawrpui, Bukpui, Tlangpui, Hmawngawn, Zalreng, Zatlan, Paihte, Sesih, Luite, Kurung, Tuitung, Daplui, tuiphai, varva, Lung keiphaw, Chawngaw, Leisang, Tuiavawm, Tumbu, Lalhuan, Tuiirh,

		<p>Tawmkuk, Mautui, Puantawm, Zuangzwl, Khawthlang, Pawlhtawn, Phivawk, R colony, Lau, Suaka, Sahthar, Theinchhungen, Chemlen, Khanghu, Khur Bial, Kapmawia Tui, Lothalui, Suakhnuna tui, Tuikhur lui, Luithuam, Darsam, Raifan, Awnnu, Arlei, Antam tui, Sakei, Phaisen, Quarry, Jordan, Ramri, Kawnpui, Phuanberh, Baek kang, Leihlawnsang, Bairabi Tlawng, Kangriau, Aitlang, Thangtepi, Rawnal, Mauti, Loklui, Bawrai, Langkaih, Khawchchak, Hmunte, Bualpui.</p> <p>vii. Other system of processing- most household have septic tanks and soak pits for black water treatment.</p> <p>viii. Water quality analysis of rivers/ streams/drians- Not conducted</p> <p>ix. Water quality analysis of STP inlet- Information not provided</p> <p>x. Water quality analysis of STP outlet- COD/BOD/PH comply with hon'ble NGT's discharge standards.</p> <p>xi. Number of sewage drains- information not given</p> <p>xii. Number of storm water drains used for sewage disposal- information not given</p> <p>xiii. Number of streams used for sewage disposal- The data on '<i>final discharge point</i>' indicates that all the sewage is discharged into Rivers/ streams.</p> <p>xiv. Household connections- Govt. has secured 45 Cr as NABARD loan for this project.</p> <p>xv. Flood plain zoning of streams/ rivers/ storm drains/ water bodies- info not provided</p> <p>xvi. STP sludge utilisation- info not provided</p> <p>xvii. Industrial effluents generated- 0.07 MLD</p> <p>xviii. No time-bound plan for establishment of additional STPs or Decentralised STPs (DSTPs) for the remaining 27 ULBs has been submitted.</p>
5.	Ring fenced account	<p>i. Account opened- 05.08.2024</p> <p>ii. Amount deposited- Rs. 50 Cr</p> <p>iii. Amount Utilised- 175,825,038</p>

	Annex 3, Pg. 754	iv. Amount proposed to be utilised- a) Project costs- 499,999,990/- b) Total expenditure- 175,825,038/- c) Total to be utilised- 324,174,862/-
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SUGGESTIONS:

Accordingly, the following suggestions are respectfully proposed to ensure time-bound compliance, strengthen institutional accountability, enhance environmental safeguards, and align implementation with statutory mandates and judicial directions.

SOLID WASTE

1. The State of Mizoram be directed to submit a ULB-wise time-bound Action Plan for the establishment and operationalisation of Solid Waste Management Centres (SWMCs) in all 28 ULBs within a period to be specified by this Hon'ble Tribunal, failing which the Chief Secretary shall appear in person and explain the delay.
2. The State be directed to operationalise at least one functional SWMC in each of the remaining 26 ULBs within 3 months from the date of the next order.
3. The State be directed to furnish detailed data on electronic waste, C&D waste, biomedical/sanitary waste, plastic waste recycling, and compost quality in its next compliance affidavit.
4. Sanitary waste incinerators compliant with the Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016 be established in all district hospitals and ULBs on a time-bound basis.

LEGACY WASTE

1. The State be directed to submit *Site-Specific Remediation Plans* for each of the 28 Legacy Waste Sites (LWS), including soil and groundwater quality baseline data, leachate management measures, and land recovery timelines, within 40 days from the date of the next order.
2. Independent soil and groundwater quality assessment at and around all 28 LWS be directed to be conducted by a NABL-accredited laboratory and submitted to this Hon'ble Tribunal within 40 days.

3. The open dumping of 203.45 TPD of fresh waste at LWS must cease. A ***Daily Waste Containment And Management Plan*** must be submitted as part of the interim remediation strategy.

LIQUID WASTE

1. The State be directed to prepare and submit a State-wide *Liquid Waste Management Action Plan* within 50 days, specifying the number, location, capacity, and timeline for installation of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) or Decentralised STPs (DSTPs) suitable for the hilly terrain of Mizoram in all 28 ULBs.
2. The cause of the severe underutilisation of the Aizawl STP (1 MLD against 10 MLD installed capacity) be investigated and remediated on a priority basis. A report in this regard be submitted within 30 days.
3. The State be directed to conduct and submit monthly water quality monitoring reports for all *108 Rivers* and water bodies identified as receiving untreated sewage discharge, using parameters including BOD, COD, DO, coliform count, and heavy metals.
4. The NABARD loan of Rs. 45 Cr secured for household sewer connections be deployed with a time-bound plan, with milestones to be submitted to this Hon'ble Tribunal.
5. The State be directed to submit data on:
 - (a) number, name and status of sewage drains;
 - (b) storm water drains used for sewage disposal;
 - (c) STP sludge disposal/utilisation; and
 - (d) industrial effluent treatment compliance.
6. Technology-appropriate solutions for sewage treatment in hilly terrain – for instance, Decentralised STPs, constructed wetlands, etc.– be evaluated and adopted by the State with technical assistance from CPCB.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND MONITORING

1. A designated Nodal Officer at the level of Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary be appointed as the single point of accountability for implementation of this Hon'ble Tribunal's directions in the State of Mizoram, with the name and contact details of the said officer to be placed on record.
2. The State be directed to publish ULB-wise compliance data on the official website of the State Pollution Control board and Directorate of Urban Development and Poverty


Alleviation Department, Government of Mizoram, and update the same on a monthly basis.

3. To enable judicial monitoring, future compliance affidavits filed by the State of Mizoram shall mandatorily include:
 - (a) per capita waste generation data;
 - (b) compost quantity and quality;
 - (c) all waste stream data including e-waste, biomedical waste, C&D waste, and sanitary waste, etc.
 - (d) water quality monitoring data for STP and receiving water bodies;
 - (e) LWS-wise remediation progress with photographic evidence; and
 - (f) project-wise and ULB-wise ring-fenced fund utilisation statement.

The observation note is respectfully submitted for the kind perusal of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS, THE ADVOCATE AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER BE GRATEFUL.

Dated: 15.05.2026
New Delhi



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