

**HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 475/2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Mountains of plastic are choking the Himalayan States appearing in The Hindu dated 04.03.24.

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Filed on: 17.10.2024
New Delhi

Filed by



K. ENATOLI SEMA
Advocate for Respondent
310, lawyer's Chamber
C.K. Daphtary block
Supreme Court of India Tilak lane
New Delhi-110001
Mob.9818139636
Enrollment No D-1931-a/2005
Email-enatoli@gmail.com

HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKOTA
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 475/2024

IN THE MATTER OF:-

News Item titled "Mountains of plastic are choking the Himalayan States appearing in The Hindu dated 04.03.2024

**REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.9 -
MEGHALAYA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, Dr. George Hagi Chyrmang, S/o (Late) D. Kyndiah, Age 43 years, having office at Lumpyngngad, Shillong, Meghalaya, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under :-

1. That I am presently posted as the Member Secretary of the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, MSPCB, and as such in my official capacity I am conversant with the facts and records of the case and hence competent and authorized to swear this affidavit on behalf of MSPCB, hereinafter referred to as the 'Board'.
2. The Board is filing this instant Affidavit to place on record the steps taken by the State and various Departments to comply with the environmental norms and the implementation of statutory rules pertaining to management of plastic waste in the State. The Board is also placing on record the steps taken by it pursuant to the

MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong

SL/Instrument No 28
Date 17-10-2024



comprehensive Action plan on elimination of Single use plastic as approved by the Special Task Force.

A copy of table indicating steps taken by it pursuant to the comprehensive Action plan on elimination of Single use plastic as approved by the Special Task Force is marked and annexed as **Annexure R/1.**

3. It is stated that the State of Meghalaya has taken the following steps:-

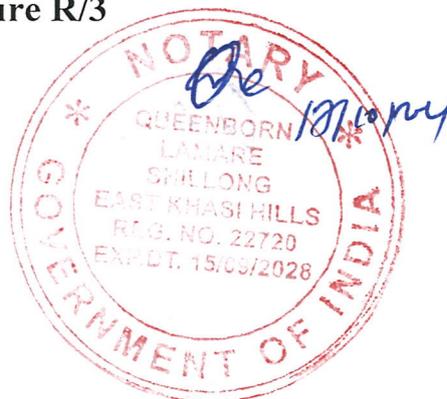
- i. State Government has notified the ban vide No. ENV 2/2021/270 dated 23.6.2022;

A copy of Notification No. ENV 2/2021/270 dated 23.6.2022 is marked and annexed as **Annexure R/2**

- ii. On vide DO letter dated 25.3.2021, Secretary, MoEF & CC Government of India, Special Task Force was constituted vide No. ENV 3/2016/385 dated 30.4.2021;

A copy of DO letter dated 25.3.2021 and Notification No. ENV 3/2016/385 dated 30.4.2021 is marked and annexed as

Annexure R/3



iii. District Level Task Force was constituted vide No. ENV 3/2016/672 dated 20.7.2022;

A copy of Notification No.ENV 3/2016/672 dated 20.7.2022 is marked and annexed as **Annexure R/4**

iv. There was also a pan India essay writing competition conducted in the State as a part of the awareness programme;

v. A Comprehensive Action Plan by the Special Task Force was formulated vide No. ENV 3/2016/566 dated 19.5.2022.

A copy of Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Task Force No. ENV 3/2016/566 dated 19.5.2022 along with Action Plan is marked and annexed as **Annexure R/5**

4. The steps and actions taken by the Board are as follows:-

i. A public notice dated 18.2.2022 was issued by the Board notifying the ban on identified single use plastic items;

ii. The State Control Room with helpline number has been set up with the Board to address issues and enquiries relating to ban on single use plastic;



- iii. Financial assistance has been provided for 5 Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations for conducting awareness programs;
- iv. Providing assistance for Extended Producer Responsibility registration and monitoring of Producer Importer Brand Awareness (PIBO's) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWP) through centralized EPR Portal;
- v. The following awareness programs have been conducted:-
- sensitization and awareness carried out in three phases in Iewduh, Shillong from May till June 2022;
 - A two-day awareness program was conducted at Tura, West Garo Hills on 7th & 8th November, 2023 in collaboration with Tura Municipal Board with the objective of targeted awareness at educational institutes and market areas and also to promote eco-alternatives to banned single-use plastic items;
 - A school level awareness program on Single Use Plastic was conducted at Tura, West Garo Hills by

MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong



SAVE (NGO) in collaboration with the board on 12th – 13th June and 19, 23rd and 26 July 2024;

- North East Adventist University, Thadlaskein, West Jaintia Hills conducted an awareness program on Waste Segregation and Management including plastic waste on 17th May 2024;
- On World Environment Day 2024 celebration at JNV, Mawphlang with a #beatplastic pollution was held along with tree plantation and Meghalaya Grassroots Music project in order to spread awareness to music and culture;
- Awareness program on Single Use Plastic Waste Management was conducted in collaboration with DFO (SF&T), West and South West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin on 13 June 2024.

vi. The other activities undertaken by the Board is as under:-

- Interschool competitions-drawing, essay and quiz;
- community sensitisation programmes;
- cleaning drives;



MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong

- flash mob dancing;
- cycling rally;
- radio jingles;
- #beat plastic pollution campaign on 5th 2023 World Environment Day;
- social media campaigns.

vii. The Board has also conducted the following inspections and joint inspections to seize banned single-use plastic items and plastic carry bags of size less than 120 microns:-

- Iewduh Market by the District Task Force Committee, East Khasi Hills district;
- Ri-Bhoi District at three locations on 19th to 23 September 2022;
- On 25th July 2023, seven Kgs was seized during inspection by the Board along with Tura Municipal Board;
- Nine Kgs were seized on a joint inspection with District Administration, Shillong municipal Board and Police

MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong



Department at 11 commercial establishments in Shillong on 27 July 2023;

- On joint inspection, 8 Kgs were seized on 13th and 14th August 2023 in Jowai;
- Joint inspection was carried out on 19th August 2023 at Shangpung market, West Jaintia Hills District.

viii. The actions taken by other Departments are as follows:-

A. District Administrations

- awareness/ sensitisation programmes, inspection/seizures, issue of prohibitory orders, notices/warnings of cancellation of licences to stockists and distributors.

B. Nodal Officers

- Compliance monitoring in 26 Community and Rural Development Blocks.

C. Border Checkpoints

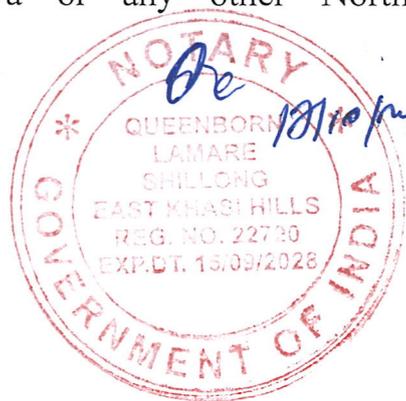
- Border checkpoints have been set up in four Districts for the purpose of ensuring that the



banned plastic does not enter the Districts from the main towns and cities.

- ix. A draft policy titled Meghalaya State Policy and Strategy on Public Waste Management By Urban Affairs Department is under preparation;
- x. Awareness Programs organised by Jowai Municipal Board at 24 localities and 26 schools in Jowai town from 30th June to 5th August 2022;
- xi. Awareness Programs and raids/seizures by Tura Municipal Board, West Garo Hills on the ban on identified single use plastic items in plastic carry bags for stakeholders/commercial establishments.

5. It is stated that the Board has sent communications both dated 29.8.2024 to the Northeastern Hill University and IIT, (Guwahati) requesting for providing any study/research relating to micro-plastics in water bodies if same has been conducted pertaining to the State of Meghalaya or any other North- Eastern States. The said



communications have been issued so that the Board can study the same and take further steps and measures, if required.

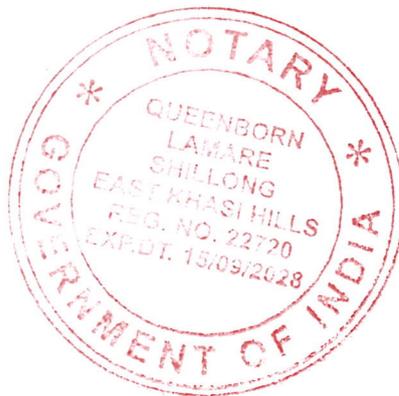
Copies of communications both dated 29.8.2024 is marked and annexed as **Annexure R/6**.

6. I say that the facts stated in the above paras are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information.

Identified by:

Miss. P. S. Barch


(Advocate)




DEPONENT
MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong

Solemnly Affirmed before me this Day On 17-10-2024 The deponent is identified by Ms P. S. Barch Advocate
I Certify that the contents of the Affidavit are read over and Explained to the Deponent who verified the same before me.


Queenborn Lamare
NOTARY
East Khasi Hills District
Reg. No. 22720

VERIFICATION

Verified at Shillong on this the 17 day of October, 2024 that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.


DEPONENT

MEMBER SECRETARY
Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong



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Actions taken by the Board as per the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic approved by the Special Task Force

SL. No	Thematic Area/ Activity/Sub-Activity	Nature of activity Continuous/short term/medium term/long term	Timeline	Responsible Department / Agency	Status
1.1	Preparation of comprehensive action plan for elimination of single use plastics	Short term	April 2022	MSPCB	Approved
4.1	Assessment of plastic waste generation in State /UT, District- wise	Short term	July 2022	MSPCB	Initial Assessment has been carried out. Revised Assessment to be carried out as per the new SOP developed by CPCB, June 2024
4.4	Gap analysis and strategy for development of infrastructure for PWM District - wise including ULBs	Medium term	July 2022	MSPCB	As per Annual Report 2023-24, 4409.236 TPA plastic waste is generated, 3702.512 TPA is collected, 510.84 TPA is processed. There is a gap of 1,217.564 TPA
4.7	Scheme for registration of Producers / Importers and Brand Owners and Recyclers and Plastic Waste Processors by SPCB /PCC	Continuous		MSPCB	Through EPR portal
4.8	Development of database of PIBO implementing EPR	Continuous		MSPCB	Through EPR portal

Actions taken by the Board as per the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic approved by the Special Task Force

4.9	Scheme for verification / audit of recyclers, PIBOs, EOLD entities by SPCB /PCC	Continuous	MSPCB	Through EPR portal
4.10	Strategy for regular data collection with respect to plastic waste and reporting under PWMR by State /UT and ULBs	Continuous	MSPCB	Through EPR portal
5.2	Identification and closure of manufacturing facilities of prohibited SUP items	Continuous	MSPCB	At present, there are no SUP manufacturing units in the state. Jai Plastech Pvt. Ltd. operating at EPIP Byrnihat, Ri Bhoi District, has been seized & closed down on 13th June 2024 and Environmental Compensation of ₹ 4,28,750/- has been imposed.
6.1	Development of database of recyclers of plastic category wise and also EOLD entities including recycling capacity	Continuous	MSPCB	Through EPR portal
6.5	Development of infrastructure for EOLD,- Waste to oil waste to energy, road construction, co-processing cement kilns	Continuous	MSPCB, Urban Affairs Dept.	For Road construction, Information has been sought from PWD(Road Dept.) and C&RD Dept. vide No.MSPCB/PWM-4/Part-III/2022/2024-25/2 dated 14th August 2024

Actions taken by the Board as per the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic approved by the Special Task Force

					For cement plants, co-processing is an ongoing process.
7.3	Development of database of producers of alternative products including compostable plastic manufacturing capacity	Continuous		MSPCB	Information has been sought from Commerce & Industry Dept. vide No.MSPCB/PWM-6/Vol-I/2023/2024-25/ dated 14th August 2024
8.1	Development of online database and monitoring system covering items covered under Comprehensive Action Plan	Short term	August 2022	MSPCB	Through EPR portal
8.2	Online public grievance / complaints portal	Short term	August 2022	MSPCB	Helpline no. megspcb@rediffmail.com , telephone no. (0364) 2521533
8.3	Mechanism to undertake regular quarterly survey for (i) prohibited single use plastic items in plastic waste and (ii)compositional characterization of plastic waste in the following categories (a)Rigid plastic packaging including multilayered packaging, (b) Flexible plastic packaging-single layered and multilayered of the plastics only and (c)Multi layered multi material (at least one layer of plastic and at least one	Continuous		MSPCB, District Administration and District Council	To be carried out as per new SOP by CPCB, June 2024

Actions taken by the Board as per the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic approved by the Special Task Force

	layer of other material) plastic packaging				
9.1	Preparation of road map for awareness generation activities at State, District and ULB /GP level for citizens, institutional waste generators, RWAs/Market associations	Medium Term	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, MSPCB, District Administration, District Councils, C&RD, PHE	Awareness programmes being carried out
9.2	Development of a public movement by engaging with youth organizations such as NCC, NSS, NYK and school students	Medium Term	July 2022	MSPCB, District Administration, Education Department	Advisory letter to Education Dept. vide No.MSPCB/PWM-2/2019/2022-23/75 dated 29th April 2022
9.3	Strategy for targeted campaign at littering hotspots such as tourist spots, places of religious and cultural importance, weekly markets, urban sprawls against littering, and promoting alternate packaging material	Medium Term	August 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, MSPCB, District Administration, Tourism Dept., Town Development Committees,	Advisory letter to Tourism Dept. vide No.MSPCB/PWM-2/2019/2022-23/77 dated 29th April 2022

Actions taken by the Board as per the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic approved by the Special Task Force

				District Councils	
9.4	Capacity building for repurposing and promoting reuse of plastic packaging	Medium Term	June 2022	MSPCB, Urban Affairs Dept.	Proposed to be held at MATI for govt. officials
9.5	Capacity building of ULBs and GPs for PWM	Medium Term	June 2022	MSPCB, District Administration	
10.1	Implementation of actions given in Standard Guidelines for single use plastic issued earlier by the Ministry (enclosed)	Short term	April 2022	MSPCB	Advisory letters to various departments have been issued vide No.MSPCB/PWM-2/2019/2022-23/74-79 dated 29th April 2022

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FORESTS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

Dated, Shillong the 23rd June, 2022

No. ENV. 2/2021/270:- In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (Act 29 of 1986) delegated to the State Government vide Notification No. S.O.389 (E) dated 14th April, 1988 and in compliance to the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2021, the State Government do hereby issues following directions, namely:-

1. The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic shall not be less than seventy five(75) microns in thickness and shall not be less than one hundred and twenty (120) microns in thickness with effect from the 31st December, 2022;
2. The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of following Single Use Plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from the 1st July, 2022:-
 - (a) ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene [Thermocol] for decoration;
 - (b) plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers.

Sd/-

(S.M.A. Razi IRTS)

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Forests & Environment Department.

Memo No. ENV. 2/2021/270-A

Dated, Shillong the 23rd June, 2022

Copy to:-

1. P.S to the Chief Minister of Meghalaya for kind information of Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. P.S to the Minister of Forests and Environment Department for kind information of the Hon'ble Minister.
3. P.S to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya for kind information of the Chief Secretary
4. The Director General of Police Meghalaya, Shillong.
5. Law Department.
6. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Urban Affairs Department.
7. The Chairman, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board for information and necessary action.
8. The Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board for information and necessary action.

9. All the Deputy Commissioners/Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) Meghalaya for information and necessary action.
10. All the Superintendent of Police Meghalaya for information and necessary action.
11. The Director Urban Affairs Meghalaya, Shillong for information and necessary action.
12. Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Boards Shillong/Tura/Jowai/Cantonment Board Shillong/Resubelpara/Williamnagar/Baghmara.
13. The Director of Printing and Stationary, Meghalaya, Shillong with a request to publish the Notification in Meghalaya Gazette.
14. State Informatics Officer, NIC Shillong Meghalaya with request to upload in the Government website.

By orders etc.



Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya
Forests and Environment Department

#####

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आर पी गुप्ता
R P Gupta

8378/PS/ENV
31/3/21

07/08/21
11/4/21



सत्यमेव जयते

934/DIR/ENV
01/04/21

सचिव
भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

13/L

D.O. No. 17/6/2021-HSMD

25th March, 2021

Dear

Vijay

You are aware that plastic waste has emerged as a serious threat to the environment. Plastic, a ubiquitous material, has serious impacts on human health and environment, if littered. India has pledged to phase out Single Use Plastic (SUP) by 2022 on World Environment Day. Further, Hon'ble Prime Minister re-emphasized the commitment to phase out single use plastic by stating the following in his speech at the inauguration of Swachh Bharat Diwas on 2nd October, 2019:

“साथियों, स्वच्छता, पर्यावरण सुरक्षा और जीव सुरक्षा – ये तीनों विषय महात्मा गांधी के प्रिय विषय थे। प्लास्टिक इन तीनों के लिए बहुत बड़ा खतरा है। लिहाजा, साल 2022 तक देश को सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक से मुक्त करने का लक्ष्य हमें हासिल करना है।”

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, for handling plastic waste in an environmentally sound manner. These Rules prohibit plastic carry bags and plastic sheets with thickness less than fifty microns. There is also a prohibition on sachets using plastic material for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. Further, the Ministry has issued draft notification on 11th March 2021 for amending the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, with respect to prohibiting identified SUP items following a phase out schedule.

3. The national strategy for addressing the environmental concerns emerging out of plastic waste involves the philosophy of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' along with the adoption of principles of circular economy.

4. The role of State Government / Union Territory Administration, Urban Local Bodies and Gram Panchayats is critical in the implementation of PWM Rules, 2016. The effective enforcement of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the ban imposed on identified single use plastic items are keys to success in the fight against plastic waste pollution. The prohibition on production, storage, transportation, sale and use of plastic carry bags and other SUP items over and above PWM Rules, 2016 by National Capital Territory Administration of Delhi is an important step towards addressing the issue of plastic pollution.

5. The PWM Rules prescribe the responsibilities of local bodies to develop and set up infrastructure for segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste. The Rules also prescribe that Secretary in charge of Urban Development of the State or Union Territory shall be the authority for enforcement of the provisions of the Plastic Waste Management Rules.

इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली-110 003 फोन: (011) 24695262, 24695265, फैक्स: (011) 24695270

INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, JOR BAGH ROAD, NEW DELHI-110 003 Ph.: (011) 24695262, 24695265 Fax: 011-24695270
E-mail: secy-moef@nic.in, Website: moef.gov.in

Mr. Khunij

6. The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, also mandate a State/UT Level Monitoring Committee for the purpose of effective monitoring of implementation of the Rules. Regular meetings of the State/UT Level Committee will go a long way in providing the required oversight and focus on implementation of the Rules. The National Capital Territory Administration may also consider developing policies for supporting the adoption of alternatives to identified single use plastic items prohibited under PWMR, 2016.

7. Awareness generation on plastic waste management and reducing the use of single use plastic items will be important in bringing in behavioral change. Strong public movement for mitigation of plastic pollution is to be created by involving educational institutions (schools, colleges, universities etc.), NCC, NSS, Scouts, Youth Clubs, Eco Clubs, Opinion Makers and Voluntary Organizations through urban local bodies. [51]

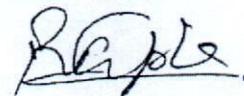
8. While reviewing the issue in PRAGATI meeting held on 24th February 2021, Hon'ble PM, had asked the State Governments to constitute a Special Task Force under chairmanship of Chief Secretary for taking measures to eliminate single use plastic in a mission mode. The Task Force should prepare a Comprehensive Action Plan with focus on implementation of provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and building strong public movement around this issue with wider public participation as mentioned above.

9. It is expected from the National Capital Territory Administration that the Task Force under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary will be constituted at the earliest and a Comprehensive Action Plan on the above lines for mitigation of plastic pollution and phasing out of identified single use plastics will be prepared by the Task Force so constituted within a period of a month's time, under intimation to this Ministry.

10. Success in tackling plastic pollution requires synergy in efforts and resources of various Departments/Agencies at State/UT and City Level. Keeping in view the serious environmental threat associated with the littering of plastic waste, I would request your personal intervention and support for effective implementation of the provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules in the National Capital Territory to address the issue of plastic pollution.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



[R P Gupta]

Shri Vijay Kumar Dev
Chief Secretary,
Govt. of NCT Delhi,
Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate,
New Delhi- 110002

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FOREST & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

Dated, Shillong, the 30th April, 2021.

No.ENV.3 /2016/ 385: The Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to constitute the Special Task Force for taking measures to eliminate Single Use Plastic (SUP) in a mission mode with the following members :

1.	The Chief Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya	- Chairman
2.	The Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Forest and Environment Department	- Member
3.	The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong	-Member
4.	The Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya, Education Department.	-Member
5.	Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Urban Affairs Department	-Member
6.	Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, C&RD Department.	-Member
7.	Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Commerce & Industries Department.	-Member
8.	Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Sports Department.	-Member
9.	Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, Meghalaya, Shillong	-Member Secretary
10.	The Director, Urban Affairs.	-Member
11.	Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Information & Public Relations Department.	-Member
12.	State Coordinator for Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, Gramin/Urban	Member

Functions of the Special Task Force :

- a) Prepare a comprehensive Action Plan for implementation of PWMR 2016 and phasing out of SUPs, with identified activities and timelines and synergizing efforts and resources of various Departments/Agencies at State, District and City level.
- b) Assess plastic waste generated in State/UT with respect to collection, recycling and end of life disposal and identify gaps in plastic waste management (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) - policy, implementation, enforcement, infrastructure etc.
- c) Strengthen policy, regulatory, institutional mechanisms/structures for the implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules (PWMR), 2016 and phasing out of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in the state/UT, design appropriate management strategies and allow for allocation of financial resources for PWM including leveraging of funds from Swachh Bharat Mission.
- d) Take measures for effective enforcement of (i) Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, and (ii) state/UT specific bans imposed on identified single use plastic items.
- e) Develop policies for supporting the adoption of alternatives to identified single use plastic items prohibited under PWMR, 2016, as amended.
- f) Take measures to strengthen ULBS/GPs for segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing, disposal of plastic waste.
- g) Take measures for effective monitoring of implementation of PWM Rules, 2016, as amended.
- h) Prepare a detailed road map for activities to build awareness and outreach among public on plastic waste management and reduction in the use of SUP items.
- i) Develop strategy for building a strong public movement for mitigation of plastic pollution by involving education institutions (schools, colleges, universities), NCC, NSS, Scouts, Youth clubs, Eco clubs, Opinion makers and voluntary organizations, with a detailed action plan in this regard.

Sd/-

(D.P.Wahlang, IAS)

Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya
Forest & Environment Department.

Memo No.ENV.3 /2016/ 385-A,

Dated, Shillong the 30th April, 2021.

Copy to :-

1. The P.S to Speaker, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly for information of the Hon'ble Speaker.
2. The P.S to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya for information of the Chief Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FOREST & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

Dated: Shillong, the 20th July, 2022.

No.ENV.3/2016/672 - In pursuance of the decision of the Third National Task Force Meeting held on 26.06.2022, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to constitute a District Level Task Force for all districts for the purpose of elimination of identified single use plastics (S.U.P.s) and effective implementation of the Plastic Waste (Amendment) Rules, 2021. The members are:

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| 1) Deputy Commissioners of all concerned Districts | : | Chairman |
| 2) District Urban Planner/Assistant Urban Planner of all concerned Districts | : | Member |
| 3) Representative of Autonomous District Councils | : | Member |
| 4) Superintendent of Police of all concerned Districts | : | Member |
| 5) Chief Executive Officer of all concerned Municipal Boards & Shillong Cantonment Board | : | Member |
| 6) Representative from Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board | : | Member Secretary |

Terms of Reference : -

1. To strictly monitor and enforce the ban of identified S.U.P.s
2. Conduct inspection and enforcement drive
3. Seizure of banned S.U.P.s
4. Creation of awareness
5. Implementation of Plastic Waste (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Sd/-(Syed Md. A. Razi, IRTS)
Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya
Forest & Environment Department.

Memo.No.ENV.3/2016/672-A,

Dated: Shillong, the 20th July, 2022.

1. The P.S to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong for favour of information of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. The P.S to the Speaker, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, for information of the Hon'ble Speaker.

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FORESTS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

No.ENV.3/2016/566,

Dated: Shillong, the 19th May, 2022.

From : Dr. Manjunatha C., IFS.,
Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
Forests & Environment Department.

- To** :
1. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Urban Affairs Department/C&RD Department/Commerce & Industries Department/District Council Affairs Department/PHE Department.
 2. The Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Water Resources Department/Tourism Department/Education Department/PWD Department.
 3. Head of Department, Science & Technology, North-Eastern Hill University, Umshing, Shillong-793022.
 4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong.
 5. The Director, Urban Affairs, Meghalaya, Shillong.
 6. Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, ARDEN, Lumpynggad, Shillong-793014.
 7. Secretary to the Executive Committee, Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council/Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council/ Garo Hills Autonomous District Council.
 8. Chief Executive Officer, Tura Municipal Board/Williamnagar Municipal Board/Baghmara Municipal Board/Resubelpara Municipal Board/Shillong Municipal Board/Jowai Municipal Board.
 9. Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills/West Khasi Hills/South West Khasi Hills/ Eastern West Khasi Hills/ Ri-Bhoi/West Jaintia Hills/East Jaintia Hills/West Garo Hills/East Garo Hills/North Garo Hills/South Garo Hills/South West Garo Hills District
 10. Chief Executive officer, Meghalaya Basin Development Authority, Upper Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003.
 11. Registrar, National Institute of Technology, Bijni Complex, Laitumkhrah, Shillong-793003



Subject : Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Task Force for Undertaking Measures to Eliminate Single Use Plastic held on 6th May, 2022, under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Task Force for Undertaking Measures to Eliminate Single Use Plastic held on 6th May, 2022, under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, along with the Comprehensive Action Plan on Elimination of Single Use Plastic for favour of your information with request to take action on points pertaining to your Department/Office.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya
Forests & Environment Department

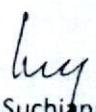
B.S.I.
for w/s a nla
26/5/22

Minutes of the meeting of the Special Task Force constituted for undertaking measures to eliminate Single Use Plastic held on 6th May, 2022 under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary.

Members present: as per Annexure

1. The meeting of the Special Task Force was convened by Smti. R.V. Suchaing IAS, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya who welcomed all the members of Special Task Force and requested the Secretary, Forests and Environment to proceed with agenda.
2. Dr Manjunatha C IFS, Secretary, Forests and Environment informed that a draft Comprehensive Action Plan for elimination of Single Use Plastic was placed before the Special Task Force during the meeting held on 8th April, 2022. It was decided in the meeting that the draft comprehensive action plan needs to be circulated to all the concerned Departments for comments.
3. The Secretary, Forests and Environment further informed that the draft comprehensive action plan was circulated to all concerned Departments and comprehensive action plan has been revised after incorporating comments from few Departments.
4. After threadbare discussion, the Special Task Force approved the draft Comprehensive action plan with certain modifications. Copy of the approved Comprehensive Action Plan on elimination of Single Use Plastic is enclosed.
5. It was decided that the Forest and Environment Department will issue a notification on banning use of certain identified single use plastics in the Government offices.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks from the Chair.


(R.V. Suchaing IAS)
Chief Secretary
Government of Meghalaya

SL. No	Thematic Area/ Activity/Sub-Activity	Budget allocation (if needed) / Source of budget	Nature of activity Continuous/short term/medium term/long term	Timeline	Responsible Department / Agency
1	Policy and Regulatory Framework				
1.1	Preparation of comprehensive action plan for elimination of single use plastics		Short term	April 2022	MSPCB
1.2	Policy for inclusion of components relating to elimination of Single Use Plastic (SUP) and remediation /management of legacy waste in project proposals under SBM 2.0		Medium term	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies
1.3	Policy for development of decentralized recycling infrastructure / End of Life Disposal infrastructure, with special focus on low - value plastics		Medium term	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies
1.4	Policy for effective enforcement of PWMR through byelaws of local bodies(like spot fines)		Medium term	July 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, District Councils, District Administration,
1.5	Adoption of sustainable public procurement policy for products and plastic packaging material made of recycled plastics, and alternatives to identified single use plastics as per applicable standards		Continuous		Forest & Environment Dept., Commerce & Industries
2	Institutional Mechanism				
2.1	Constitution of State Level Special			Constituted on	

	Task Force			30 th April 2021	
2.2	Identification of nodal department for coordinating the implementation of plastic waste management (for urban as well as rural areas)		Short term	May 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & District Councils
2.3	Constitution of City Level Task Force for million plus cities under Commissioner of Municipal Corporation or Deputy Commissioner or District Magistrate or any other officer of suitable rank as deemed appropriate by the State / UT Governments				
2.4	Constitution of District Level Task Force(excluding million plus cities) under District Magistrate (for both rural areas and urban areas)		Short term	May 2022	District Administration
2.5	Setting up of a plastic waste management cell at State level (each in Urban and Rural Development Departments or the concerned Departments), District level(in Zila Parishad for all the rural areas),and in each ULB		Short term	June 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & C&RD Blocks under District Administration, District Councils
3	Management of Littered Single Use Plastic Items				
3.1	Identification of littering hotspots with respect to SUP items and development of strategy for their collection and further management		Short term	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, Tourism dept., District Councils
3.2	Identification of ingress points of littered single use plastic items in		Short term	September 2022	Water Resource, Urban Affairs dept.

	surface water bodies and drains and strategy for prevention				
3.3	Phased plan for cleaning surface water bodies, and drains of floating single use plastic items and their further management		Long term	September 2022	Water Resource, Urban Affairs dept., District Administration, District Councils, C&RD
3.4	Document total quantity of plastic waste present in legacy waste sites and implementation of plan to manage legacy plastic waste - location - wise		Long term	December 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies
3.5	Activities to be specifically included under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 for SUP elimination and management of legacy waste sites, as per guidelines		Medium term	December 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, District Administration, PHE, District Councils
4	Plastic Waste Management including Single Use Plastics				
4.1	Assessment of plastic waste generation in State /UT, District- wise		Short term	July 2022	MSPCB
4.2	Assessment of infrastructure required for plastic waste management - collection, segregation, recycling / EOLD- District wise		Medium term	July 2022	Urban Affairs Dept., District Councils, PHE, C&RD
4.3	District -wise details of infrastructure at municipal and gram panchayat level for collection, segregation and channelization of plastic waste recyclers /EOLD		Medium term	July 2022	District Administration, Local Bodies, District Councils, PHE, C&RD
4.4	Gap analysis and strategy for development of infrastructure for PWM District - wise including ULBs		Medium term	July 2022	MSPCB
4.5	Leveraging of funds under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, as per guidelines		Continuous		District Administration, PHE, local bodies

4.6	Strategy for collection and segregation of plastic waste at the municipal and GP level		Medium term	September 2022	Local Bodies, District Administration, District Councils
4.7	Scheme for registration of Producers / Importers and Brand Owners and Recyclers and Plastic Waste Processors by SPCB /PCC		Continuous		MSPCB
4.8	Development of database of PIBO implementing EPR		Continuous		MSPCB
4.9	Scheme for verification / audit of recyclers, PIBOs, EOLD entities by SPCB /PCC		Continuous		MSPCB
4.10	Strategy for regular data collection with respect to plastic waste and reporting under PWMR by State /UT and ULBs		Continuous		MSPCB
5	Enforcement of Ban Imposed on the use of Identified Single Use Plastic Items at District / ULB / GP level				
5.1	Regular enforcement drives and action taken against violations		Continuous		District Administration, Local Bodies, District Councils
5.2	Identification and closure of manufacturing facilities of prohibited SUP items		Continuous		MSPCB
6	Plastic Recycling Infrastructure and End of Life Disposal Facilities				
6.1	Development of database of recyclers of plastic category wise and also EOLD entities including recycling capacity		Continuous		MSPCB
6.2	Development of plan for setting up recycling facilities		Medium	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, District Councils
6.3	Incentive scheme for setting up of plastic recycling capacity category –		Medium	September 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries

	wise				
6.4	Development of industrial composting facilities for compostable plastics: Number and quantity		Short term	June 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries
6.5	Development of infrastructure for EOLD,- Waste to oil waste to energy, road construction, co-processing cement kilns		Continuous		MSPCB, Urban Affairs Dept., PWD
6.6	Scheme for promotion of recycling technologies and products made from recycled plastics		Continuous		Dept. of Commerce & Industries
7	Development and Promotion of Alternatives to Prohibited Single Use Plastic Items and Promoting Innovation				
7.1	Development of scheme for providing assistance in setting up manufacturing capacities of alternatives including for enterprises transitioning away from single use plastics (Number of enterprises, Quantity)		Short term	September 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries, MBDA
7.2	Providing incentives for penetration of alternatives in the market		Medium term	September 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries, MBDA
7.3	Development of database of producers of alternative products including compostable plastic manufacturing capacity		Continuous		MSPCB
7.4	Promotion scheme for alternatives to prohibited single use plastic items		Medium term	September 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries, MBDA
7.5	Scheme for promoting producers to change design of plastic packaging to reduce use of plastic packaging material		Medium term	July 2022	Dept. of Commerce & Industries

7.6	Research and Development on creating alternative packaging materials to plastics		Continuous		Science & Technology Dept., NEHU, NIT Shillong
8	Data Collection and Monitoring Mechanism				
8.1	Development of online database and monitoring system covering items covered under Comprehensive Action Plan		Short term	August 2022	MSPCB
8.2	Online public grievance / complaints portal		Short term	August 2022	MSPCB
8.3	Mechanism to undertake regular quarterly survey for (i) prohibited single use plastic items in plastic waste and (ii) compositional characterization of plastic waste in the following categories (a) Rigid plastic packaging including multilayered packaging, (b) Flexible plastic packaging-single layered and multilayered of the plastics only and (c) Multi layered multi material (at least one layer of plastic and at least one layer of other material) plastic packaging		Continuous		MSPCB, District Administration, District Council
9	Awareness Generation and Capacity Building				
9.1	Preparation of road map for awareness generation activities at State, District and ULB /GP level for citizens, institutional waste generators,		Medium term	September 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, MSPCB, District Administration, District Councils, C&RD, PHE

	RWAs/Market associations				
9.2	Development of a public movement by engaging with youth organizations such as NCC, NSS, NYK and school students		Medium term	July 2022	MSPCB, District Administration, Education Department
9.3	Strategy for targeted campaign at littering hotspots such as tourist spots, places of religious and cultural importance, weekly markets, urban sprawls against littering, and promoting alternate packaging material		Medium term	August 2022	Urban Affairs Dept. & Local Bodies, MSPCB, District Administration, Tourism Dept., Town Development Committees, District Councils
9.4	Capacity building for repurposing and promoting reuse of plastic packaging		Medium term	June 2022	MSPCB, Urban Affairs
9.5	Capacity building of ULBs and GPs for PWM		Medium term	June 2022	MSPCB, District Administration
10	Action taken for reducing / elimination of single use plastic items in State /UT Government offices, attached/ subordinate offices, PSUs /organization				
10.1	Implementation of actions given in Standard Guidelines for single use plastic issued earlier by the Ministry (enclosed)		Short term	April 2022	MSPCB

No. MPCB/CL-156/2024/2024-25/ 3

Dated Shillong the 29th August, 2024

To,

Prof. O. P. Singh (HOD),
Department of Environmental Studies,
North Eastern Hill University,
Shillong – 793022
(Email: opsinghnehu@gmail.com)

Sub: Studies/researches on microplastic(s) in water bodies carried out in the state of Meghalaya or any other state of the north-east – regarding.

Sir,

With reference to the above cited subject, this is to inform that the NGT vide order dated 12.07.2024 Original Application No. 475/2024 had registered suo muto on the basis of the news item titled “Mountains of plastics are choking the Himalayan States” appearing in ‘The Hindu’ dated 04.03.2024. The news item relates to the deposition and accumulation of microplastic in the Himalayan Mountains, rivers, lakes and streams. A copy of the Original Application dated 12.07.2024 which is self-explanatory is enclosed herewith for reference.

In this connection, I would therefore request you to kindly provide information as per the following:

1. Whether any study/research relating to ‘microplastic(s) in water bodies’ have been/is being carried out by your institute/organization.
2. Whether any such studies/researches have been/are being carried out within the state of Meghalaya or any other state in the north-east.
3. If no such studies/researches have been carried out till date, whether any plan or proposal along this line is on the anvil.

An early reply from your end will be highly appreciated.

Encl: As stated

O/C

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pls.
Symon
5/9/2024

Yours faithfully



(Dr. G. H. CHYRMANG, MFS)
MEMBER SECRETARY
MSPCB, Shillong

No. MPCB/CL-156/2024/2024-25/ 2.

Dated Shillong the 29th August, 2024

To,

Prof. Animes Kr. Golder (Head of the Centre),
Centre for the Environment,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
Academic Complex, I Block,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Guwahati – 781039 (Assam)
(Email: hocenv@iitg.ac.in & env_off@iitg.ac.in)

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Encl: As stated



Yours faithfully



(Dr. G. H. CHYRMANG, MFS)
MEMBER SECRETARY
MSPCB, Shillong

O. A. 475-2024, News items titled 'Mountains of plastic are choking the Himalayan States' appearing in the Hindu dated 04.03.2024

1 message

amit singh <semasingh.office@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 17, 2024 at 2:53 PM

To: judicial-ngt@gov.in, psdin@gbpibed.nic.in, Arunachal Pradesh SPCB <arunachalspcb@gmail.com>, mespebsk@gmail.com, membersecrty@pcbassam.org, mizorampch@gmail.com, rusovitihon@yahoo.com, advrahulverma9999@gmail.com, Avijit Mani Tripathi <avijitmani@gmail.com>, ms.whpcp-wb@bangla.gov.in, net.whpcp-wb@bangla.gov.in, dc-rb-meg@gov.in

Dear Sir, /Madam

Kindly Find attached scanned copy Affidavit being e- filed on behalf of Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, which is being served in advance copy as proof of service.

Thanking you.

Best Regards,
Ms.K.Enatoli Sema
(Clerk)
Rahul Mo. 750363069

--

Office of Mr Amit Kumar Singh & Ms.K.Enatoli Sema,
Advocates-on-Record,
House No.60,
High Court Judges Colony,
H.G-03,
Sector 105,
Noida -201301.
U.P.
Mobile + 91 9818139636.
Phone (0120) 4926002

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