

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
MINING & GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Dated Shillong, the 24th September, 2009

No.MG/82/2006/372 - Whereas, the Government of Meghalaya proposes to make in operation the Meghalaya Mining Policy 2009;

Whereas, further it is deemed necessary to invite and elicit suggestions/objections/views/comments from the general public so as to reach the State Government within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Now, therefore, the State Government invites suggestions/objections/views/comments from the members of general public of the State with respect to the proposed draft Meghalaya Mining Policy 2009 and to furnish the same to the Officer On Special Duty to the Government of Meghalaya, Mining & Geology Department, Meghalaya, Additional Secretariat (Room No.504) within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice on any working day during office hours.

CONTENTS OF THE DRAFT MINING POLICY

Introduction

PART – I

1. Background
2. Mission
3. Mineral Resources of Meghalaya
4. Infrastructure in Meghalaya for mining activities
5. Regulation of mines and minerals

PART – II

1. Objectives
2. Mineral Exploration
3. Strategy for Mineral Development
4. Mining Practices :
5. Mineral Administration
6. Linkage of Mineral Development with Mineral-based Industries
7. Research and Development in Minerals
8. Export Promotion
9. Mineral Development and Protection of Environment
10. Pollution Control Clearance
11. Mines Safety and Rehabilitation of Affected people
12. Joint Venture
13. Welfare and Social Responsibilities
14. Meghalaya Minerals Development Fund
15. Foreign Direct Investment
16. Mineral Related Tourism
17. Policy Implementation
18. Power Of The State Government
19. Order

INTRODUCTION :

To facilitate systematic, scientific and planned utilization of mineral resources and to accelerate the mineral based development of the State, the Mining Policy has been formulated for the state of Meghalaya to ensure optimal utilization of available mineral resources, development of vast mineral potential, generate revenues for socio-economic development, upliftment the economy of the State and enhance the employment opportunities.

In the light of above, the State Government has decided to formulate and make effective the Meghalaya Mining Policy - 2009. This policy shall include the following provisions :-

PART – I

1. BACKGROUND :

- 1.1 Minerals are finite and non-renewable natural resources. They constitute the vital raw materials for many basic industries and are major resources for development. Scientific management of mineral resources has to be closely integrated with the overall strategy for sustainable development and be guided by long term national goals and state perspectives. It is therefore necessary, to spell out in a statement the different elements of a policy relating to development of the State's mineral resources.
- 1.2 It is imperative to conserve the available mineral resources through scientific exploration and mining so as to ensure availability of minerals for industrial production. The Mining Policy aims to reconcile these two objectives.
- 1.3 To provide proper linkage between exploitation of minerals and development of mineral industry with preference to the local tribal people for development of small deposits and protection of the environment from the adverse effects of mining.
- 1.4 To provide the required infrastructure, simplified and transparent mechanism.
- 1.5 The Meghalaya Mining Policy- 2009 shall be in consonance with the objectives and provisions of Meghalaya Industrial Policy.

2. MISSION :

The Meghalaya Mining Policy - 2009 is being formulated with a focused mission of sustainable and eco-friendly growth of mineral deposits and mineral based industries with due regard to environment, conservation as well as upliftment of standards of living of the local people in and around the mineral bearing areas.

3. MINERAL RESOURCES OF MEGHALAYA :

Meghalaya is endowed with large deposits of a number of valuable minerals. Coal, limestone, uranium, granite, kaolin, clay and glass sand are the principal minerals. A brief account of the mineral resources is given below :-

Coal – Meghalaya Coal, which is tertiary coal, is generally sub-bituminous in composition. The prominent Coalfields of the State are West Darrangiri, Siju, Pendengru-Balpakram in South Garo Hills, Langrin in West Khasi Hills, East Darrangiri partly in West Khasi Hills and partly in East Garo Hills, Mawlong-Shella in East Khasi Hills and Bapung-Sutnga in Jaintia Hills.

Limestone - An extensive bed of limestone occurs in the southern part of the State from Jaintia Hills in the east and Garo Hills in the West. The main deposits are found around Cherrapunjee, Mawlong, Ichamati, Shella, Komorrah in East Khasi Hills, Borsora and Bagli in West Khasi Hills, Lakadong, Lumshnong and Nongkhlieh in Jaintia Hills, Darrang Era-aning, Siju, Chokpot in South Garo Hills.

Uranium - Significant occurrence of Uranium deposit is found in and around Domiasiat and Wahkyn area in West Khasi Hills District

Granite – Deposits of multi-coloured granite have been located around Nongpoh in Ri-Bhoi District, Myllem in East Khasi Hills District, Mawkyrwat and Nongstoin in West Khasi Hills District, Mendipathar and Songsak in East Garo Hills District.

Kaolin - Good quality Kaolin (China Clay) occurs around Mawphlang, Smit and Laitlyngkot in East Khasi Hills, Thandlaskein, Shangpung, Mulieh and Mynsngat in Jaintia Hills and Darugiri in East Garo Hills District.

White Clay - Sedimentary White Clay is found around Cherrapunjee and Mahadek in East Khasi Hills, Nangwalbibra in South Garo Hills and Rongrengre in East Garo Hills District.

Glass Sand - Glass Sand is found to occur at Laitryngew, Umstew and Kreit in East Khasi Hills and Tura in West Garo Hills.

Other minerals - Quartz occurs almost in all districts in the northern part of the State. Feldspar, iron ore, are reported in Ri-Bhoi District, Bauxite and rock phosphate are found in Jaintia Hills District. Sillimanite is found in West Khasi Hills.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE IN MEGHALAYA FOR MINING ACTIVITIES :-

4.1 **Road** - Road transport is the only means of communication in the State with the nearest railhead at Guwahati. There are 3(three) national highways traversing the State. The Road network needs to be developed keeping in view access to mineral bearing areas.

4.2 **Power** - Power is a key input for mechanized mining, processing and mineral-based industry. The State has been experiencing acute power shortage. The power demand in the State by the end of 11th Plan is projected at 800 MW and is expected to improve further with the implementation of Power Policy.

4.3 **Human Resource** :

- 4.3.1 The number of mechanized mines are on the increase necessitating a large number of qualified personnel. Beside sponsoring students for degree courses in mining engineering and geology, a Mining Institute shall be set up in the State to prepare the local youth for acquiring statutory certificates from the Board of Mining Examinations/Directorate General of Mines Safety so that the mine owners can be directed to absorb the successful youth.
- 4.3.2 The Institute shall provide orientation programme in respect of private mine owners/operators.

5. REGULATION OF MINES AND MINERALS –

Although mineral wealth vests with the constituent States of the Union, yet the subject of regulation of mines and mineral development is covered by entry 54 of the Union List under 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India. By virtue of this, the Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to regulation of mines and mineral development. A list of statutory acts, rules and regulations applicable in this regard are given below :-

- i. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957
- ii. Mineral Concession Rules, 1960
- iii. Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972
- iv. The Coal Mines (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1973 (No.15 of 1973)
- v. Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973
- vi. Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Act, 1993
- vii. The coal Mines (Conservation and development) Act, 1974
- viii. The Coal Bearing Area (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957
- ix. Colliery Control Order, 2000
- x. The Land Acquisition Act, 1894
- xi. The Factories Act, 1948
- xii. The Mines Act, 1952
- xiii. The Mines Rules, 1955
- xiv. Coal Mines Regulations, 1957
- xv. Explosives Act, 1884
- xvi. Explosives Rules, 1983
- xvii. The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971
- xviii. The Coking Coal Mines (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1971
- xix. The Indian Forest Act, 1927
- xx. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- xxi. The Meghalaya Water (Prevention and Control) Rules, 1996
- xxii. Water Pollution (Procedure for Transaction) of Business Rules, 1975
- xxiii. The Water Prevention and Control of Pollution Cess Act, 1977
- xxiv. Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution Cess Rules, 1978
- xxv. The Air (Prevention) and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- xxvi. The Meghalaya Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1988
- xxvii. Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- xxviii. Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986
- xxix. The Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989
- xxx. Indian Electricity Act, 1910

- xxxi. Indian Electricity Rules, 1956
- xxxii. Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
- xxxiii. Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1924
- xxxiv. Atomic Energy Act, 1962
- xxxv. Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988
- xxxvi. Metalliferous Mines Regulation, 1961
- xxxvii. Forest Conservation Act, 1980
- xxxviii. Any other Acts, Rules or Regulations as applicable

PART – II

1. OBJECTIVES :-

1.1 The basic objectives of the State Mining Policy are the following :-

- (i) To explore for identification of mineral wealth in the State.
- (ii) To facilitate exploration work for accurate reserve estimation of the mineral deposits.
- (iii) To develop and exploit mineral resources in a scientific and sustainable manner, taking into account the interest of the State.
- (iv) To review the existing practice of random exploitation of mineral resources and to regulate mineral exploitation.
- (v) To carry out geological mapping of mineral resources.
- (vi) To promote necessary linkages between mining, mineral industry and power generation.
- (vii) To promote investment in mining and industry to generate employment for local people.
- (viii) To promote research and development activities in mineral sector.
- (ix) To ensure establishment of appropriate training facility for human resource development to meet the man power requirement of the mineral industry.
- (x) To minimize adverse effect of mineral development on the environment and ecology through appropriate preventive and control measures.
- (xi) To ensure conduct of mining operation with due regard to safety and health of all concerned.
- (xii) To create a database on mineral resources, both major and minor.
- (xiii) To take steps to promote mining activities based tourism. To educate, to create awareness and to generate more employment opportunities.
- (xiv) To promote private sector participation in various aspects of mineral development, which includes exploration, infrastructure building, mining and other mining related activities and mineral based industries.
- (xv) To encourage Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in consonance with the national policy.

2. MINERAL EXPLORATION :-

2.1 The Directorate of Mineral Resources and the Geological Survey of India are the two main government organizations engaged in geological investigations of minerals in the State. Besides, Atomic Mineral Directorate of the Dept. of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India is also engaged in exploration of uranium in the state.

- 2.2 Modern techniques such as Aerial Remote Sensing, Geophysical and Geo-chemical surveys would be adopted for mineral exploration.
- 2.3 Evaluation of the reserve potential of known deposits on the basis of United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) would be done.
- 2.4 Private participation in the sphere of mineral exploration would be encouraged.

3. STRATEGY FOR MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Major Mineral

- 3.1.1 Suitable strategy for development and exploitation of coal in the State in a scientific and sustainable manner would be followed, including value addition of the mineral to encourage development of mineral processing industry and increase revenue earnings of the State.
- 3.1.2 Strategies and guidelines for extraction of limestone in a scientific, safe and environmentally friendly manner would be formulated.
- 3.1.3 Scientific mining in the State would be introduced in a phased manner and for this, involvement of Coal India Ltd. would be sought for.

3.2 Minor Minerals.

Mining and quarrying of minor minerals are to be regulated in the form of mining lease or quarry permit. As such, framing of minor mineral concession Rules for regulating the grant of mining lease/quarry permit would be taken up to ensure proper vigilance and supervision over mining and quarrying activities.

3.3 General

- 3.3.1 The strategy for exploitation and development of each mineral will be reviewed periodically on the basis of available resources. An optimal depletion rate will be worked out in respect of each mineral keeping in view the state and national resource position and the need for stable and sustained economic growth.
- 3.3.2 The best use of the State's rich mineral deposits will be ensured by adopting, during mining operation, effective measures for conservation and beneficiation, recovery of associated minerals and by efficient processing of minerals. There will be adequate and effective legal and institutional framework and commitment to prevent sub-optimal and unscientific mining. Some of the suggested steps to achieve this goal are:-
 - (i) full use of scientific method of exploration;
 - (ii) development of mineral processing and beneficiation system;
 - (iii) greater recycling of metallic scrap and utilization of mineral waste;
 - (iv) use of better and improved mining technologies;
 - (v) proper manpower development;
 - (vi) greater linkages between development of mineral resources and their utilization in the end products;

- (vii) dissemination of information on technological changes;
- (viii) improvement of infrastructural facility;
- (ix) financial support/incentives for mining activities;
- (x) Promotion of small scale mining or small deposits in a scientific and efficient manner safeguarding the vital environmental and ecological imperative.

4. MINING PRACTICES :

4.1 To ensure best mining practices and procedures including optimal utilization and development of mineral resources available in the State, efforts would be made to :-

- i) Adopt cost effective, efficient and state-of-the-art mining practices for optimum recovery and utilization of mineral.
- ii) Introduce efficient, cost effective and improved technologies in the mining of coal and various other minerals.
- iii) Create a Mineral Data Bank for search, utilization and analysis of various data pertaining to mineral concessions, production and dispatch of minerals, land use pattern, afforestation, mineral development etc. The information in the Data Bank shall be regularly updated.
- iv) Ensure that all mine owners follow the statutory and administrative guidelines and complete exploration of their entire area not exceeding 3(three) years from the date of notification of this policy.
- v) Ensure reclamation, rehabilitation and closure of mined out areas to facilitate environmental protection.
- vi) Keep proper record of waste/overburden/side burden, low and sub grade materials extracted and generated in the course of mining.
- vii) Encourage beneficiation and upgradation of low grade minerals.
- viii) To involve mineral industries and R & D Organisations.

4.2 Preparation of detailed geological report based upon extensive survey and exploration would be taken up.

5. MINERAL ADMINISTRATION :

5.1 Under Section 24 of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Govt. is entrusted with inspection of mines. As such, greater degree of financial support for the Directorate and opening up of more Divisional Offices at the District level would be taken up to strengthen the infrastructure.

5.2 All field offices would be interlinked with the State Headquarters and efficient Management Information System (MIS) would be developed and implemented at the District and State Levels.

- 5.3 Review and reallocation of mining leases for unused, underdeveloped, under utilized areas would be taken up.
- 5.4 Non working mines would be declared as lapsed as per Rule 28 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.
- 5.5 To ensure preparation of mining plan as per statutory requirement would be ensured.
- 5.6 Mining plan for such minerals as notified by the Central Government would be taken up with the authorities for approval.
- 5.7 Rules would be framed for preventing of illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals.
- 5.8 The data and information would be properly catalogued to work as a data bank and the Directorate of Mineral Resources will maintain such data bank for which Information and Documentation Cell at Headquarter would be set up.
- 5.9 Exchange and dissemination of data and information on minerals with other Government Agencies would be taken up. The geological data generated by the Directorate of Mineral Resources would be supplied to private entrepreneurs at the rate as may be fixed from time to time.
- 5.10 The procedure for granting mineral concession would be as follows :-
 - a) The applications for grant of mineral concession shall have all relevant details, such as map of the area, geographic coordinates, extent of the area, boundary description, nature of land, etc.
 - b) Application for mineral concession either fresh or renewal is to be submitted to the State Government through the Deputy Commissioner of the District wherein the area applied for is situated.
 - c) On receipt of application, the Deputy Commissioner will examine the same, make necessary enquiry about the applied area and forward the application with a report to the Directorate of Mineral Resources.
 - d) The Directorate of Mineral Resources will examine the technical aspects and forward such application with comments if any, to the Government.
 - e) The grant order for mineral concessions will be issued by the Government.
 - f) Execution of deed agreement will be done by the Deputy Commissioner of the District concerned.

6. LINKAGE OF MINERAL DEVELOPMENT WITH MINERAL-BASED INDUSTRIES IN THE STATE :

- 6.1 The existing and upcoming important mineral based industries in Meghalaya are in the following sectors :-
 - i. **Coal-based Industries**: Coke Oven and thermal power plant.

- ii. **Limestone-based Industries** : Cement Plant, Lime Plant, Calcium Carbide Plant, Precipitated Calcium Carbonate Units and Bleaching Powder Unit
- iii. **Other minerals based industries** – Granite mining and polishing, Sillimanite refractory and other allied industries, Clay washery, Ceramic glazed tiles, Cement based mosaic tiles, Ceramic crockery, Ceramic low tension insulators, Ferro Alloys etc.

For industrial growth in the State it is essential that exploration and exploitation of mineral should be done, developed and regulated in a sustainable manner.

- 6.2 Mineral development needs to be linked with mineral based industries for assured supply of minerals.
- 6.3 Long term agreement between the mineral based industries and the lessees for supply of minerals at a mutually acceptable price shall be encouraged.
- 6.4 The following measures will be adopted for development of mineral based industry in the State :-
 - i. Facilitation of the term loan assistance from financial institutions engaged in both mining and processing/beneficiation of minerals.
 - ii. Priority for grant of mining lease to such entrepreneurs who are willing to install a processing and beneficiation units.

7. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN MINERALS

- 7.1 Research and Development in the mineral sector would cover the entire activities from geological survey, exploration, mining, beneficiation, extraction of minerals to development of minerals.
- 7.2 Efforts would be directed to the development of new technologies for conversion of existing mineral resources into possible economic resources. Appropriate technologies shall be developed to enable indigenous industries to utilize the mineral resources with which the State is abundantly endowed and has substitutes for minerals whose resources are poor. R & D efforts shall be directed to find new and alternative uses for minerals whose traditional demand is on the wane.
- 7.3 Research and development will be so oriented as to ensure maximum economic recovery of the associated minerals and valuable metals. Attention will be given to beneficiation and agglomeration techniques to bring lower grades and finer size material into use.

8. EXPORT PROMOTION -

- 5.1 For promotion of export, the State Government would make efforts for setting up of dry ports equipped with all basic amenities at suitable locations.

- 5.2 The State Government will encourage export of value added mineral products. To achieve this, it will :
- (i) Promote and organize trade fairs and similar events and give wide publicity to possibilities of export of value added mineral products.
 - (ii) Set up a market intelligence cell under the Department of Mining and Geology to provide and disseminate information about the demand, consumers' needs and price trends.

9. MINERAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT :

- 9.1 Mining operations are required to be regulated under the provisions of the existing environmental laws.
- 9.2 Extraction of minerals within declared environmentally sensitive areas (areas with identified environmental resources having "Incomparable Values" which require special attention for the conservation), and ecologically fragile & biologically rich areas will be avoided as far as possible to conserve the environmental resources. However, in order not to impede legitimate socio economic development of such areas, special local area development plan may be formulated.
- 9.3 Appropriate measures will be taken to protect forests and maintain ecological balance in mining belts while pursuing mining activities.
- 9.4 The Environment Management Plan shall adequately provide for controlling the environmental damage, restoration of mined areas and planting of trees and reclamation and afforestation shall proceed concurrently with mineral exploitation, as far as practicable.
- 9.5 Prevention and mitigation of adverse environmental effects due to mining operation, storage and processing of minerals, including disposal of mine-spoils shall form integral part of mine development plan I strategy in accordance with the norms and standards prescribed under the relevant Acts & Rules.
- 9.6 Mitigation measures shall invariably include prevention and control of water pollution (like acid mines drainage), gaseous pollutants, soil erosion and land slides, siltation, stabilization of waste dumping sites including repairing and re-vegetation of the affected forest area and land covered by trees.
- 9.7 Mining closure plan shall emphasize adequate post mining measures on restoration of mined landscapes, control of subsidence, control of pollution of surface and ground water especially from acid mine drainage and afforestation of the mined land and surrounding areas.
- 9.8 General environment awareness to educate the people in mining areas will be organized regularly.

- 9.9 A State Environment Restoration Fund will be created for restoration of the environmental resources including reclamation of the mined out areas and handing over the same to the private land owners through the State Government.
- 9.10 Sometimes the Agricultural land is affected due to mining of minerals and extraction of stones, hill sand and soil mainly for construction purposes, resulting in erosion of agricultural land and deterioration of environment. In order to prevent any such damages to prime agricultural land, the following steps would be taken:
- a) Conversion of agricultural land especially for mining of minor minerals will be discouraged by invoking necessary provisions of law;
 - b) Grant of conversion certificate form an appropriate authority in respect of mining of minerals falling within the recorded and identified prime agricultural land will be introduced.
- 9.11 Before renewal of mining leases for major and minor minerals, it will be ensure that mining has been carried out in accordance with the approved mining plan and in compliance with the terms and conditions of the lease agreement executed and other clearances granted for the purpose.

10. POLLUTION CONTROL CLEARANCE :

- 10.1 The State Pollution Control Board would accord approvals/clearances/NOC expeditiously for eligible proposals after filing of application.
- 10.2 The mines would be categorized into Green, Orange and Red categories by the State Pollution Control Board. No pollution control clearance shall be required for the Green Category of mines. Expeditious clearance to Orange category mines would be given on long-term basis as provided under the relevant rules.
- 10.3 Inspection would only be carried out on periodic basis.

11. MINES SAFETY AND REHABILITATION OF AFFECTED PEOPLE :

- 11.1 Mining Operators would be requested to take steps for development and adoption of modern methods which would increase the safety of the workers and reduce the accidents.
- 11.2 Mining Operations often involve acquisition of land held by individuals including those belonging to the weaker sections. Besides, granting of compensation to the owner for acquisition of his land, effort will be made to ensure that those belonging to the weaker sections, who are likely to be deprived of their means of livelihood as a result of such acquisition, get proper rehabilitation.
- 11.3 The State Government will seek collaboration of the Directorate General of Mines Safety for safety in mines.

11.4 The mine owners would be required to take full responsibility of rehabilitating the people affected by the hazards of mining like subsidence and environment pollution to safer areas. The State Government will extend administrative cooperation for successful execution of the rehabilitation programmes.

12. JOINT VENTURE :

12.1 In the era of globalization and open markets, joint ventures are an accepted mode for exploration, exploitation & marketing of minerals including coal. Participation of Central PSUs (eg.CIL for coal) & state PSUs as well as private sectors would be sought in these spheres.

The Government will endeavour to provide support facilities for such joint ventures.

12.2 The incentives offered under the State Industrial Policy (SIP) will be available to eligible mineral based industries which includes special benefits on capital investment for small and medium scale industries, export oriented units, women entrepreneurs, handicapped persons and ex-service men.

12.3 For captive coal based thermal power generation, various incentives under SIP are admissible. Special package will be formulated for encouraging new projects with an investment of more than Rs.100 crores on case-to-case basis through direct negotiations with prospective investors, contemplating to establish mineral based industries.

13. WELFARE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES :

To ensure active involvement of various agencies, organizations, institutions, industries, etc. engaged in mineral development sector in welfare and socio-economic development of mineral bearing and its surrounding areas :-

- a) The State Government will set up a Mineral Advisory Committee comprising of technical experts and professional institutions to advise undertaking welfare and socio-economic development of mineral bearing and its surrounding areas.
- b) The mine owners would be required to provide health, education, drinking water, safe and hygienic condition of living and welfare facilities to the mine workers and their families.
- c) The mine owners would be required to set up health centers specially equipped to cater to the needs of the women and children in and around the mining areas.

14. MEGHALAYA MINERALS DEVELOPMENT FUND :

The Government has also initiated to constitute the 'Meghalaya Minerals Development Fund' with a view/objective to develop the mineral laden areas, including welfare programmes for the people engaged in mineral activities.

15. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT :

Foreign direct investment and technology by overseas corporate bodies and NRIs would be encouraged in exploration, mining, value addition in mineral sectors and environmental protection as per the Government of India Policy.

16. MINERAL RELATED TOURISM :

- 16.1 Mineral related tourism would be promoted with a view to create awareness, educate the masses and provide employment opportunities to the local people.
- 16.2 Geological Parks would be set up in the State wherever and whenever feasible.

17. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION :

- 17.1 An Empowered Committee headed by Commissioner and Secretary, Mining and Geology Department will be constituted to monitor and periodically review the implementation of the State Mining Policy.
- 17.2 All concerned departments and institutions shall issue follow-up notifications to give effect to the provisions of this policy after its declaration.
- 17.3 The Empowered Committee shall also look into the hurdles/problems, if any, with respect to the implementation of this policy and also with respect to providing relief/concessions with regard to such issues brought before the Committee.
- 17.4 A Master Plan will be prepared for exploration, exploitation, marketing and development of required infrastructure in respect of all the minerals of the state and its implementation.

18. POWERS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT :

Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing paragraphs of the Mineral Policy, the State Government by issuance of notification in the official gazette may amend or withdraw any of the provisions and/or the schemes mentioned herein above.

19. ORDER :

It is hereby ordered that the copy of this policy be published in the Special Meghalaya Gazette and wide publicity be given and be circulated among all Departments/Heads of the Departments/Government Website.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Meghalaya

Commissioner and Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Mining & Geology Department