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**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
MINING & GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

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**ORDER**

No.MG.44/2020/120

Dated Shillong the 10th September 2020

**Scheme to reward the informer for providing information of illegal mining and transportation of coal**

WHEREAS the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 in O.A. No. 110(THC)/2012 directed the State of Meghalaya to frame a scheme to reward the informers in case the information on illegal mining and/or transportation of coal provided by such informers is found to be true;

WHEREAS the Home (Police) Department has set up Centralised Helpline to receive the complaints/information on illegal coal mining and transportation in the State;

WHEREAS the coal mining and coal transportation in the State is allowed only after due compliance of statutory Acts and Rules;

THEREFORE, the State Government has introduced the following Scheme to reward the informer for providing credible information on illegal mining and/or transportation of coal, as under:-

1. This Scheme shall regulate the grant and payment of reward to the informants in cases where information is received on the Centralised Helpline Number and/or the nearest police station, to the person in-charge of check gate under the DMR or to the Divisional Mining Officer or any other competent officer/authority in respect to incidences of illegal mining and/or transportation of coal. This scheme shall not entitle any reward in respect to information relevant for enforcement of any other law.
2. Informant for the purposes of the scheme is a person providing specific information on incidences of illegal mining and/or transportation of coal on the Centralised Helpline Number -**1800-345-3846** (Toll Free) or to the nearby Police Station, to the person in-charge of check gate under the DMR or to the Divisional Mining Officer or to any other competent authority in the prescribed format mentioned in Annexure-A. However, in emergency situations, the concerned officer may dispense with the submission of information in terms of Annexure-A and the same may be postponed to be completed at a later date.
3. A person will be considered an informant if he furnishes the information according to the scheme and thereupon he will be granted an Informant Code. After allotment of the Informant Code, the person shall be identified with Informant Code only.
4. If the information is furnished by a group of informants (more than one informant working together) Informant Code shall be allotted separately to each of them. The reward payable in such cases shall be disbursed in equal proportion, unless specified otherwise by such informants at the time of furnishing information.
5. Identity of the informant, the information given by him (including all related document/annexures) or reward paid to him shall not be disclosed to any person/authority except when expressly required by law for the time being in force or by order of any court. The document/annexures relating to identity and information shall remain confidential and be dealt with accordingly.
6. The information provided shall be credible and correct which should directly lead to necessary actions under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and other legal provisions such as seizure of coal, seizure of vehicle carrying coal and filing of complaint before the competent Court.
7. The concerned Officer receiving the information shall maintain confidentiality of persons furnishing information so that such informant is not threatened by

- anyone who are interested in continuing illegal coal mining and transportation activities.
8. The informant shall be liable to render assistance as may be required by the concerned officer who is responsible for investigating the matter of information given by the informant.
  9. Monetary reward of an amount of **Rs. 5000/-** (Five thousand) shall be given by the Mining and Geology Department, through the concerned officer within four weeks, to the informant for providing the credible information directly leading to seizure of coal or seizure of vehicle carrying illegal coal and filing of complaint before the competent court based on the information as an incentive.
  10. However, under certain circumstances the informant may not be eligible to reward under the scheme:
    - (a) Where the information is not provided according to the Scheme or any terms and conditions of the scheme are not fulfilled;
    - (b) Where the information does not relate to any significant situation of illegal mining or transportation;
    - (c) Where the information is vague/ non-specific or is of general nature;
    - (d) Where the information is already available with the department,
    - (e) Where the information provided by the informant does not directly lead to discovery of illegal mining or transportation;
    - (f) Where the department or the concerned officer in-charge has evidence that the information given the Informant has been shared by him with any other person or any agency/entity including media; or
    - (g) In respect of incidental or collateral action in any other case based on the information furnished by the informant.
  11. It would be open to the concerned officer or the Department to ignore the information provided by the informant if the antecedents of the informant, past information provided by the informant or conduct of the informant so justify the non-cognisance of the information provided by him.
  12. In case of grievance of the informant he may contact 'authorised officer' to be notified by the concerned Department who shall take necessary steps to redress the grievance.
  13. No reward shall be granted under this scheme to any Government Servant, who furnishes such information or evidence who obtains such information in the course of discharge of his normal duties as Government Servant. A person employed by the Central Government or State Government or Union Territory Government or a nationalized bank or local authority or public sector undertaking, corporation, body corporate or establishment, set up or owned by the Central Government or State Government or Union Territory Government shall be deemed to be a Government Servant for the purpose of this Scheme.
  14. It should be noted that furnishing false information/evidence shall attract action under relevant laws in force.
  15. Reward under this scheme shall be ex-gratia payment, which subject to this scheme shall be ex-gratia payment, which subject to this scheme, may be granted in the absolute discretion of the competent authority to grant reward. The decision of the authority shall be final and shall not be subject to litigation.
  16. Since the reward under this scheme is in the nature of ex-gratia payment, no assignment of the same may be made to any other person. But the provisions of the Scheme shall apply to the heir of the informant who has passed away.
  17. The Scheme shall come into force from the date of notification.

(Dr Manjunatha C, IFS)  
Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Mining and Geology Department

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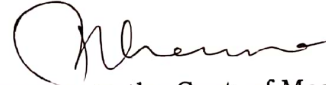


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Copy to:-

1. P.S to the Chief Minister of Meghalaya for kind information of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. P.S to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
3. The Director General of Police, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.
4. The Member Secretary of the NGT Committee, Meghalaya for kind information of the Committee.
5. The Director of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information and necessary action.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners, Meghalaya for information.
7. All the Superintendent of Police, Meghalaya for kind information and necessary action.
8. The Divisional Mining Officer, Jowai/Williamnagar for information and necessary action.
9. State Informatics Officer/Senior System Analyst, NIC Meghalaya Shillong for uploading in the Department's Website.

By orders etc.



Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Mining and Geology Department