

MANIPUR



GAZETTE

**EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

No. 332

Imphal, Wednesday, January 5, 2022

(Pausa 15, 1943)

**GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR
SECRETARIAT : TEXTILES, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

NOTIFICATION

Imphal, the 4th January, 2022

No.GM-1/1/2021-TCI-T,C&I : The Governor of Manipur hereby makes the following policy, namely, "The Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021", which is attached as annexure.

MICHAEL ACHOM,
Secretary (Textiles, Commerce & Industry),
Government of Manipur.

THE MANIPUR MINERAL POLICY, 2021

1. Introduction

Minerals are finite and non-renewable resources and must be exploited wisely in the larger interest of the State. While on the one hand, mineral exploration brings about an increased economic activities and development of the State, it can have adverse social and environmental consequences which must be sincerely and adequately addressed in the interest of wellbeing of all the citizens of the State. Scientific mining has to go hand-in-hand with sustainable management practices for a long term economic development of the State keeping stakeholder's interest in mind. The exploration and exploitation of minerals will be guided by the State strategy for economic development and Make in Manipur initiatives. **The efficient regulatory mechanism will be enforced incorporating e-governance** including remote sensing application to prevent illegal mining of minerals. The Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021 has been prepared with this perspective in view.

2. National Mineral Policy

The salient features of National Mineral Policy, 2019 generally applicable to the States are as follows:-

- (a) Minerals being valuable resources and vital raw materials for core sectors of the economy, extraction will be optimized through scientific methods, beneficiation and economic utilization. Zero waste mining will be the goal. Mining technology will be upgraded to ensure extraction and utilization of the entire Run-of-Mines (ROM) materials.
- (b) The regulatory environment mechanism will be made more conducive to ease of doing business. The procedures for grant of mineral concession shall be transparent with an assured security of tenure along with transferability of concessions playing a key role in mineral sector development.
- (c) There shall be transparency and fair play while reserving areas for State agency unless security considerations or specific public interests are involved.

- (d) Regulatory environment will be more conducive to exploration and mining activities by investors and entrepreneurs.
- (e) Grant of clearances for commencement of mining operations shall be streamlined with simpler and time bound procedures.
- (f) The duration of all concessions will be rationalized.
- (g) Data filing requirements will be rigorously monitored and concessions will be closely monitored in this regard.
- (h) Framework of sustainable development will be designed to ensure that mining can take place along with restoration of land, environment, etc.
- (i) Prevention and mitigation of adverse environmental effects due to mining in accordance with the latest scientific norms and modern afforestation practices shall form integral part of mine development strategy in every instance. The guiding principle shall be that a miner shall leave the mining area in an ecological shape which is as good as it was before the commencement of mining or better.
- (j) Sustainable development of mining would be ensured.
- (k) Mining will not be taken up in ecologically fragile or biologically rich areas. Mining in forest areas will be accompanied by time bound reclamation.
- (l) Special care will be taken to protect the interest of host and tribal populations.
- (m) Project affected persons will be protected through comprehensive rehabilitation packages. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be strictly implemented.
- (n) The mining legislation has been amended to provide for the establishment of District Mineral Foundation (DMF) with the objective of working for the interest and benefit of persons, and areas, affected by mining related operations.
- (o) Once the process of extraction of a mine is completed there would be scientific mine closure not only to achieve ecology and regenerate bio mass but also to take into account the socio-economic aspects of such closure, land reclamation as an integral part of the mine development process; that financial

provisions for the costs incurred in mine closure are accorded a high level of priority by the industry; and that consistent approaches are adopted for efficient and effective mine reclamation and rehabilitation. Abandoned mining sites will be converted into forests or used in some other appropriate purposes.

- (p) When mine closure becomes necessary, it will be done in orderly and systematic manner.
- (q) Value addition will be encouraged for growth of mineral based industries in the State.
- (r) Mining infrastructure requires a special thrust. Infrastructure needs will be financed through innovative structures.
- (s) The State Directorate of Geology & Mining will be suitably strengthened to enable them to regulate mining in the interest of conservation and scientific development of the sector.
- (t) State Government will frame regulations to overcome the problem of illegal mining through operational and financial linkages with Indian Bureau of Mines. An efficient regulatory mechanism will be enforced to prevent illegal mining.
- (u) Steps will be taken to minimize the adverse impact of mining on the health and safety of workers and surrounding population.
- (v) In order of mineral security for functioning downstream industries and the overall economy, downstream regulations should be aligned for their exploration and development.
- (w) Mining of small deposits will be suitably regulated to promote scientific and efficient extraction while safeguarding vital environmental and ecological imperatives and to control illegal mining. A cluster approach will be adopted by granting the small deposits together as a single lease within a geographically defined boundary. In grant of mineral concessions for small deposits in Scheduled Areas, preferential right shall be given to Scheduled Tribes singly or as cooperatives by extending an enabling environment to carry-out operations in a systematic and efficient manner.

- (x) An enabling environment will be created to motivate large capacity mining companies to undertake creation of transport network.
- (y) There will be arm's length distance between operating agencies that mine and those that regulate.
- (z) Use of machinery and equipment which improves the efficiency, productivity and economics of mining operation, safety, health of workers and others will be encouraged.
- (aa) Emphasis will be laid on mechanization, computerization and automation of the mining units and the manpower development programmes shall be suitably reoriented.
- (bb) Educational institutions will be geared up to meet the needs of the sector in the medium and long-terms.

In the light of the National Mineral Policy, 2019 , it is desirable to set out a State Mineral Policy that deepens the thrust of the National Policy and gives focus to it in the context of the specific needs and conditions in the State. Accordingly, this Policy has been developed which includes the features outlined in two parts below.

PART – I

3. Objectives

Basic objectives of the Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021 are the following :-

- (a) To explore the resources and reserves of mineral wealth of the State.
- (b) To develop and exploit mineral resources in a scientific and sustainable manner taking into account the interest of the State.
- (c) To promote necessary linkages between mining, mineral industry, power generation and other related infrastructural developments.
- (d) To promote investment in mining and industry to generate employment for local people.

- (e) To minimize adverse effect due to mining on the environment and ecology through appropriate preventive and control measures.
- (f) To ensure safety and health of all concerned caused due to mining operations.
- (g) To promote private sector participation in various aspects of mineral development which includes exploration, infrastructure development, mining and other mining related activities and mineral based industries.
- (h) To protect and promote interest of habitation in and around the mining areas.
- (i) To create employment opportunities for the people of the State.
- (j) Considering the good reserves of limestone and chromite in Manipur, the State Government may promote the manufacturing of Cement, Ferro-Chrome industries and beneficiation of chromite in the State by prospective public/private enterprises for augmenting revenue of the State Government.

4. Mineral Resources of Manipur

Manipur is endowed with small deposits of a number of valuable minerals. These minerals are confined to certain types of rocks such as ophiolite suite, oceanic pelagic sediments and mélanges in the State. Among these chromite, limestone and serpentinite are important deposits. Other reported economic minerals are base metals, precious metals (PGE/PGM) and idocrase. Besides, sand, clay, ordinary earth, road metals, and other minor minerals also occur abundantly in the State.

4.1 Chromite: Resources of metallurgical and refractory grades of chromite deposits are located within Ophiolite Belt that extends over an area of about 1100 sq. km. towards the eastern part of Manipur in Chandel, Tengnoupal, Ukhrul and Kamjong districts. The reserve of chromite is 13.60 million tonnes of refractory and metallurgical grades.

- 4.2 Limestone: Cement grade limestone deposits are located in Ukhrul, Chandel and Tengnoupal districts. The reserve of limestone is 69.445 million tonnes of lime and cement grade.
- 4.3 Serpentinites: Serpentine (as dimensional stone) occur extensively in Tengnoupal, Chandel, Ukhrul and Kamjong districts in the Ophiolite Belt of Manipur. Serpentinites are also commercially known as "Green Marble". It, like granite and marble, can be processed into attractive tiles, slabs and other building blocks. The reserve is 7500 million tonnes.
- 4.4 Idocrase/Rhodingite: They occur as small lensoid bodies within ultramafics in the Ophiolite Belt of Manipur. A notable occurrence is located in the north-east of Kwatha village in Tengnoupal District. They can be cut and used as semi-precious stones as well as decorative handicraft items. The reserve of rhodingite of Kwatha is 21,322 tonnes.
- 4.5 Clay: Clay associated with lignite has been located at Kangvai village in Churachandpur district. It has been found suitable for 'Tera-Cota' industries. Ceramic clays located at Nungbi village in Ukhrul District are used for pottery industry. Clay of Kangvai valley is 25,20,000 tonnes.
- 4.6 Building Stones: Thick bedded sandstones of Barail Group, exotic sandstones of ophiolite melange zone occurring in large quantity especially in Tamenglong, Churachandpur and Ukhrul districts are suitable for making slabs and building blocks.
- 4.7 Sand, stone and other construction materials: The State has abundance of sand, stone and other construction materials in most of the districts which can readily be used as building materials.
- 4.8 Hydrocarbons: Based on the geological investigations by the ONGC, Oil India Ltd. and some private companies, there is a high potential of availability of oil and gas towards the western and southern portions of Manipur.

5. Data Base of Mineral Resources and Tenements

5.1 State inventory of mineral resources will be based on comprehensive and up to date review of exploration data which will be maintained in digitized form comprising both a resource inventory and a tenement registry. The resource inventory will be maintained in accordance with a globally accepted public reporting standard for ensuring reliability of reporting and acceptability to financial institutions and stock exchanges showing reserves and remaining resources as well in the traditional methodology in vogue. The registry shall be a web-based system for public viewing integrated with GIS, such that information could be shown spatially in the form of map based service.

5.2 Efforts shall be made by the Government to establish a Mining Tenement System (MTS) which would primarily involve automating the entire concession life-cycle using state-of-the-art IT systems.

5.3 Baseline and mineral exploration data generated will be collated and maintained, for open dissemination as a public good. Collaboration between national and international scientific and research bodies, universities, professional bodies and industry will be encouraged for scientific and technological research to address the mineral exploration challenges in the State/Country

6. 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 some of the important statutory acts, rules and regulations applicable in this regard, as amended from time to time, are given below:-

- (a) The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957;
- (b) National Mineral Exploration Policy, 2016;
- (c) The Mineral Concession Rules, 1960;

- (d) The Mineral Conservation & Development Rules, 1988.
- (e) Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015.
- (f) Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015.
- (g) The District Mineral Foundation Trust Rules, 2016.
- (h) Minerals(Transfer of Mining Lease granted otherwise than through auction for captive purpose) Rules, 2016,
- (i) National Mineral Exploration Trust Rules, 2015,
- (j) The Mines and Minerals (Contribution to District Mineral Foundation) Rules, 2015,
- (k) The Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961;
- (l) The Forest Conservation Act, 1980;
- (m) The Indian Forest Act, 1927;
- (n) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972;
- (o) The Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981;
- (p) The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency (in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement) Act, 2013;
- (q) The Factories Act, 1948;
- (r) The Mines Act, 1952;
- (s) The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020;
- (t) The Mines Rules, 1955;
- (u) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (v) The Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986;
- (w) The Forest Rights Act, 2006;
- (x) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2016;
- (y) The Manipur Forest Rules, 1971;
- (z) Oil Field (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948;

- (aa) Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959;
- (bb) The Manipur Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2012.

PART – II

7. Mission

The Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021 has been formulated with a focused mission of sustainable and eco-friendly development of mineral deposits and mineral based industries with due regard to environment, conservation as well as generating employment for local population and upliftment of standards of living of the local people in and around the mineral bearing areas.

8. Survey and Exploration

The Division of Geology & Mining (DGM) of the Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, Government of Manipur and the Geological Survey of India (GSI) are the two main Government agencies which carry out survey and exploration of minerals in the State. These activities will be further continued and strengthened in order to discover new mineral deposits by deploying state-of-the-art technology. Private entrepreneurs or firms possessing such technology will be encouraged to expedite identification of new mineral deposits as per extant applicable Acts and Rules. Petroleum and natural gas falls under the domain of the Union Government in the 7th Schedule of the Constitution Article 246(1), the survey & exploration has exclusive power of the Union Government. The State Government will extend logistic support to such survey and exploration.

The State Geological Programming Board will be headed by the Administrative Secretary of the Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, Government of Manipur and include representatives of IBM, GSI, ONGC, NEC, State PHED, IFCD, Finance, Planning and Forest & Environment Departments.

the concerned mining bodies and the Division of Geology & Mining. It will prioritize the projects and finalize annual programmes to maximize the benefits for the State.

9. Estimation of Mineral Resources

In order to increase the resource base of the State, the State DGM will be suitably strengthened and will take up annual programmes for the purpose of:-

- (a) Detailed mapping and exploration of potential areas to facilitate mineral development;
- (b) Prospecting operations of promising areas and preparation of feasibility reports to enable auction of ore bodies prospected by the DGM. Where possible, programmes may be taken up in a collaborative mode with GSI through joint use of S&T, manpower and laboratory facilities. Prospecting activities may also be outsourced to reputed institutes under Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) or Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), or any other reputed exploration agencies in the private/public sectors.
- (c) It will be ensured that the applicable United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) system is fully adopted and utilized for reporting reserves and other resources in a scientific manner in accordance with Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015.

10. Grant of Concessions

The State Government will encourage private investment in exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in accordance with the existing Acts and Rules, and in particular :-

- (a) The notified blocks along with survey and exploration data will be put on the website of the Department for accessible to other prospectors;
- (b) To notify areas of potential mineralization where detailed exploration is required to quantify the resources and application for grant of Prospecting Licence or Composite Licence (Prospecting Licence-cum-Mining Lease). In case of forest areas, the Government will ensure 'forest clearance' before notification;

(c) Respect the right of the prospector to obtain Mining Lease over his prospect to suite the amended Act;

(d) Ensure that mining concessionaire recognize techno-economic principles of estimation of reserves and resources in UNFC as per Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015.

(e) State Government will have right for reservation of some mines not granted to private sectors for captive purposes. The mining and industrial development may be taken in Joint Venture with prospective private sector/ State public sector undertakings in the reserve areas to further promote private ventures in the sector.

(f) Preference will be given to local persons for grant of quarrying leases for sand, stone and other construction materials.

(g) A mining concession will be given only to a prospector after completing prospecting and submitting prospecting data or through a process of auction based on appropriate prospecting data and feasibility report. The Government may make special efforts to build investor's confidence and to this extent shall :-

(i) respect the right of a concessionaire to transit to the next stage of concession irrespective of other claimants; and

(ii) frame and implement transparent system of notifying promising areas for grant of mineral concessions, and grant concessions as per equitable and just criteria published in the notification.

11. Scientific and Systematic Mining

There is need to enforce scientific and systematic mining practices so that the precious natural resources are fully utilized. The State DGM, the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) are the main authorities to ensure systematic and scientific mining. Concerted efforts shall be made to achieve better coordination among these Departments for fulfilling the objectives of scientific and zero waste mining.

For this purpose, the State DGM shall monitor the development of expertise in Mining Plans and Mine Closure Management Plans by the public/private ventures. As far as possible, the State DGM shall ensure that mining activities adhere to the approved plans.

12. Safety of mines and mine-workers

Mining operations at times are hazardous in nature. Accidents happen and often result in occupational health problems, serious bodily injury or even loss of life. Efforts must be directed towards the development and adoption of mining methods which would increase the safety of workers and reduce accidents. Towards this end, participation and cooperation of mine workers shall be secured. Steps will also be taken to minimize the adverse impact of mining on the health and safety of workers and the surrounding population. DGM should be further strengthened through adequate manpower, equipments, and skill sets in order to carry out the regulatory role for ensuring miners' health and mine safety effectively.

13. Land Use Planning and Sustainable Development -3-

To facilitate and ensure sustainable development of mineral resources in harmony with the environment, a comprehensive view on land use will be taken keeping in view of the needs of development as well as needs of protecting the forest, environment and ecology. Compliance of forest and environmental laws by miners will be enforced through the State Department of Forests and Environment.

Ownership of land along with boundary for the areas to be mined will be ascertained and managed for effective land use planning under the provisions of the Manipur Land Revenue and Land Reforms Act, 1960 wherever applicable.

Attempts will be made to utilize mine wastes and promote the concept of zero waste mining to minimize the impact on the environment. Mining Plans and

Mine Closure Plans will be dovetailed and harmonized for sustainable development.

14. Development of Infrastructure

For extraction and utilization of minerals and protection of mineral based industries, infrastructure development is a basic necessity. Existing infrastructures in the mineral bearing regions is not adequate. Hence, development of roads within the mining areas would be given priority.

National Mineral Policy, 2019 categorically states that Government of India will support States in developing infrastructures in and around mining areas. Government of India will be requested to come out with a plan for infrastructure and other developments in mining areas.

15. Mineral Concession Regulation

The Committee in the State Level known as State Level Committee shall monitor the documents for mineral concessions in accordance with the Act and Rules framed by the Ministry of Mines for regulation of mines.

The Committee shall consist of the Director of Trade, Commerce & Industries and in-charge of the Division of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Manipur, Deputy Director General of GSI and Regional Controller of Mines, IBM.

16. Mineral Based Industries

Efforts will be made to attract mineral based industries in the State to add value, increase economic activities and bring in best practices in mining and sustainable development. Preference will be given in the following order:-

- (a) Quantum of investment
- (b) Value addition at ore stage
- (c) Induction of new technology

- (d) Creation of infrastructure
- (e) Mechanization, automation and computerization
- (f) Sustainable development and relief and rehabilitation practices.
- (g) Extent of employment of people of the state

Based on the Industrial & Investment Policy of Manipur, 2017, the Government shall enter into equitable arrangements for supply of water, power and inputs including mineral ores, and creation and management of general infrastructure. A conducive industrial environment will be created and every effort will be made to ensure that law and order is adequately maintained.

Suitable areas for prospecting will be identified aiming at establishment of mineral based industries and applications shall be invited for Prospecting License based on the above preference.

17. Environment and Forest Related Issues

The Government will ensure expeditious processing of cases involving forest land. It will proactively identify areas where mining-related activities are likely to lead to unacceptable damage to the ecology and the environment. It will also identify suitable areas for compensatory afforestation including mined out areas.

The Government will ensure that before putting ore bodies to mining, forest clearance is obtained wherever required.

The State Government will ensure coordination between the State DGM and Manipur Pollution Control Board for conduct of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a quick, transparent and professional manner and ensure facilitation of preparation, approval and monitoring of the Environment Management Plan.

18. Relief and Rehabilitation

The mining affected persons/families/areas will be covered the Industrial & Investment Policy of Manipur, 2017 and the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency (in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement) Act, 2013.

19. Reclamation and Restoration

Mining activities will be taken up in a manner that does not permanently degrade the land. The Government shall ensure that the mines in their Mine Closure Plans make adequate provision for reclamation and/or restoration of the land to the best possible potential in collaboration with local communities, and for their use. Land after closure shall be returned to the local Panchayat or the authority concerned for management preferably as a Common Property Resource, particularly for the benefit of the rural poor.

Reclamation/restoration efforts shall specially address issues of:-

- (a) Bringing land into productive use;
- (b) Reducing soil erosion through vegetative means;
- (c) Dealing with chemical pollutants of soil and water; and
- (d) Mitigating the adverse visual impact.
- (e) Afforestation in the case of forest land.

20. Cluster Deposit Mining

In many areas of the State, mineral deposits occur in small clusters not amenable to scientific mining. They include quarry and construction materials (sand, sandstone, etc.) and float ore deposits. Unscientific exploration of such local deposits can cause serious environmental problems.

In the interest of proper management of such deposits and to generate local employment, the Government shall encourage creation of cooperatives for

the extraction and processing of cluster deposits with approved Mining Plan/Mine Progressive Plan/ Closure Plan/Environmental Management Plan.

21. Minor Minerals

The Government has implemented Manipur Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2012 for proper exploitation and systematic quarrying of minor minerals and also for addressing environmental concerns. These Rules ensure that:-

- (a) The permits or licences for minor minerals are given wherever possible to local bodies and such cooperatives;
- (b) Mining is done in a way that does not cause environmental disturbance including water and air pollution or disturbance to natural ecological regimes.

22. Prevention and Control of Illegal Mining

Illegal mining, besides being a loss of State revenue, has widespread negative impact. Preventive measures shall be taken up by the State Government by enactment of Rules there on for the following:-

- (a) Environmental damage;
- (b) Alienation of local population;
- (c) Corruption, crime and lawlessness, etc.

There are many reasons for illegal mining. The main causes are:-

- (i) Lax regulation and corruption;
- (ii) Delays and complex procedure in getting legal concession, including forest and environmental clearance;
- (iii) Keeping known deposits without notifying to invite applications;
- (iv) Refusal to grant renewal for a mine that is not exhausted;
- (v) Arbitrary reduction in lease areas, particularly during renewal.

The Government shall take steps to improve the regulatory supervision of potential mineralization areas and shall involve local population in the process. Forest and environmental clearances and other regulatory approvals shall be fast tracked and monitored through the State Empowered Committee.

Village Panchayats and Local Bodies shall be incentivized to keep vigil on the mining of sand and boulders from streams in their jurisdiction and awareness generation programmes will be organized for the purpose.

23. Royalty/Dead Rent to be paid by Lessee

The holder of the mining lease shall pay royalty or dead rent whichever is greater in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by him or his agent, manager, employee, contractors or sub-lessee from the leased area at the rate being specified in the Second & Third Schedules in respect of major minerals and at the rate fixed by State Government in case of Minor minerals.

24. District Mineral Foundation Trust

In any mining districts, District Mineral Foundation Trust, a non-profit body shall be constituted to implement schemes listed in the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) with the fund accrued by the lessee at the rate specified under Mines and Minerals (Contribution to District Mineral Foundation) Rules, 2015:

- (a) Ten per cent of the royalty paid in terms of the Second Schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957) (herein referred to as the said Act) in respect of mining leases or, as the case may be, composite licence granted on or after 12th January, 2015; and
- (b) Thirty per cent of the royalty paid in terms of the Second Schedule to the said Act in respect of mining leases granted before 12th January, 2015.

25. Contribution to National Mineral Exploration Trust Fund

The lessee shall pay 2% of the royalty paid to the National Mineral Exploration Trust fund for any mineral removed or consumed by him or his agent, manager, employee, contractors or sub-lessee from the leased area under National Mineral Exploration Trust Rules, 2015.

26. Geoinformatics

The Government recognizes that the key to attracting investment in the mining sector is making available relevant information in a way most useful for investment decision making. The Government shall create and constantly update a Website in order to ensure information regarding:-

- (a) State policies, legislation and executive instructions;
- (b) Availability of areas for prospecting and mining through creation of a Mining Tenement Registry in collaboration with the Department of Land Records;
- (c) Geological and geophysical data in spatial as well as non-spatial formats including data gathered during reconnaissance and prospecting after lock-in period is over; and
- (d) A concession management system to provide for end-to-end management from application to mine closure.

The State DGM will liaise with the GSI and the IBM in order to ensure uniformity and standardization of applications and the best possible synergy from the databases.

27. Skill Development, Capacity Building and Training

- (a) Vocational education system shall be reviewed to ensure that skills required in the mining sector are adequately addressed;

(b) The Government shall endeavour to provide training on regulatory and development aspects of mining in consultation with or through IBM to the persons of concerned departments or mining industries to ensure proper mineral administration and control of illegal mining.

28. Geo-Tourism

Geo-parks shall be set up in the State wherever and whenever feasible in order to enhance geo-tourism.

29. Implementation of the Policy

Implementation of the Policy will be ensured through the twin mechanism:-

- (a) The State Geological Programming Board (SGPB) to ensure that appropriate development programmes are taken up; and
- (b) The State Level Committee (SLC) to ensure that regulatory regime is adequate for the task.
- (c) District Mineral Foundation (DMF).

30. Power of the State Government

Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing paragraphs and clauses on the Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021, the State Government may, by issuance of notification in the official gazette, amend or withdraw any of the provisions and/ or the schemes mentioned herein above at any time without prior intimation.

Note : The Manipur Mineral Policy, 2021 will be in consonance with the objectives and provisions of the Industrial & Investment Policy of Manipur, 2017.