

**MINUTES OF MEETING ON DRAFT “MIZORAM RIGHT TO PUBLIC SERVICES  
BILL, 2014” AT SAD CONFERENCE HALL ON 06.08.2014 (11.00 AM)**

The meeting on Draft Mizoram Right to Public Service Bill, 2014 was chaired by Pi Lalsangpuui, Addl. Secy, DP&AR. The following members were present:

1. Pu P.C. Lallawmsanga, Principal Secy, Excise & Narcotics, DM&R, LE&IT
2. Pu Lianchungnunga, Secretary, P&E, PHE, MI
3. Pu H. Laizika, Addl. Secy, UD&PA, P&S
4. Pu R. Zarzosanga, Addl. Secy, Revenue
5. Pu R. Lalbiakthanga, Addl. Secy, Finance
6. Pi Thanhliiri Pachuau, Addl. Secy, Social Welfare
7. Pu Thlamuana, Jt. Secy, Planning
8. Pu P.S. Sanghluna, Jt. Secy, Transport
9. Pu Zothanmawia, Jt. Secy, School Education
10. Pu Khuangkunga, Jt. Secy, Taxation
11. Pu Zahmingthanga Ralte, Dy. Secy, Law & Judicial
12. Pi Lalhrangliani, Dy. Secy, PWD
13. Pu Lalhriatpuia, Dy. Secy, Home
14. Pu Lalrohluia, Nodal Officer, DP&AR (GGC)

Welcoming the members, the Chairman highlighted the purpose of the meeting and stressed the high priority accorded by Government of Mizoram on the agenda of Good Governance especially reforms in public service delivery with the objective of providing a transparent, accountable and responsive administration to its citizens particularly at the grassroots level.

The meeting was informed that several states have enacted and implemented laws on time-bound delivery of public services. Madhya Pradesh was the pioneer in this direction with the “*Madhya Pradesh LokSewaon KePradan Ki Guarantee Adhiniyam*” implemented w.e.f 18.08.2010. Other States which have implemented similar laws includes Uttar Pradesh, NCT of Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jharkhand, Assam, Karnataka, Odisha, Kerala, Chhatisgarh and Haryana.

The meeting considered that establishing a rights-based approach in public service delivery will not only empower citizens to demand services in a time bound manner but also offers an opportunity to enable government officials with a legal and technical framework for providing these services efficiently. The move to make public service delivery legally binding on the government displays a strong political will to make citizens active agents within administrative processes rather than mere recipients of services. The initiative will definitely make the administration more responsive and inevitably more accountable. The move will also give the much needed legal backing and ensure more tooth to the Citizens Charter published by various Departments.

The meeting was informed that Law & Judicial Department had taken an initiative earlier for time-bound delivery of services to citizens by formulating a draft bill viz., “The Mizoram (Right of Citizens to Time-Bound Delivery of Services) Bill, 2012” while similar initiatives was also taken by Member Secretary, State Planning Board. Subsequently, the subject matter has been transferred to the DP&AR (Good Governance Cell) which formulated the draft “**Mizoram Right to Public Service Bill, 2014**” for consideration of the meeting. In fact, draft rules for the proposed Bill viz., “**Mizoram Right to Public Service Rules, 2014**” and the tentative list of public services to be notified under section 4 of the proposed Bill were also placed before the meeting for its consideration.

The basic provisions of the draft bill were examined in detail and the meeting recommended the following changes in the draft Bill:

1. A provision for appeal against the order of the Second Appellate Authority in respect of imposing penalty under this Act against the Designated Officer or the First Appellate Authority may be included in the draft Bill. The meeting recommended inclusion of the provision for revision of the order of the Second Appellate Authority as follows:

*“Revision: The Designated Officer or the First Appellate Authority aggrieved by any order of the Second Appellate Authority in respect of imposing penalty under this Act, may make an application for revision to the Officer nominated by the State Government within a period of sixty days from the date of that order, who shall dispose of the application according to the prescribed procedure.*

*Provided that the Officer nominated by the State Government may entertain the application after the expiry of the said period of sixty days, if he is satisfied that the application could not be submitted in time for sufficient cause”*

2. Subsequently, the provision in the draft Bill under sub-section (3) of section 9 making the order of the Second Appellate Authority final and binding may be deleted from the draft Bill.

3. The draft Bill may be made applicable to persons working on deputation basis under the Government of Mizoram. Necessary changes may be made in section 2 of the draft Bill.

4. Under section 7 of the draft Bill, the stipulated time limit may be counted from the date the application is *received* by the Designated Officer with acknowledgement.

The meeting also examined in detail the basic provisions of the draft Rules although it is well known that the Rules have to be framed after the passage of the Bill in the Legislature. After careful consideration, the meeting decided that a separate column for recording the “*Date of receiving application*” may be inserted in Form 3 under Rule 14 in the proforma for register to be maintained by Designated Officer.

The meeting also considered the tentative list of public services proposed to be notified under Section 4 of the proposed Bill. In order to cover maximum public services under the proposed Bill, the meeting decided that Departments may be informed to submit list of public services to be notified under the proposed Bill along with the stipulated time limit, Designated Officer, First Appellate Authority as well as Second Appellate Authority for each of such public services.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

**Sd/-LALSANGPUII**

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram

**Memo. No.H.12017/1/2014/P&AR(GGC) Dated Aizawl, the 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2014**

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary, Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department
2. Principal Secretary, Excise & Narcotics Department
3. Principal Secretary, Labour, Employment & Industrial Training Department
4. Commissioner & Secretary, General Administration Department
5. Commissioner & Secretary, Revenue Department
6. Commissioner & Secretary, Finance Department
7. Commissioner & Secretary, Rural Development Department
8. Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare Department
9. Commissioner & Secretary, Taxation Department
10. Secretary, Law & Judicial Department
11. Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department
12. Secretary, Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Department
13. Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department
14. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department
15. Secretary, Home Department
16. Secretary, Industries Department
17. Secretary, Public Works Department
18. Secretary, Power & Electricity Department
19. Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department
20. Secretary, School Education Department
21. Secretary, Transport Department



**(LALROHLUA)**

Nodal Officer, DP&AR (GGC)