

No.F.11(35)/DSTE/CC/Pt-I/ 3813-24
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

Dated, Agartala, the 24/05/2017

NOTIFICATION

Sub:- Statutory Guidelines for Protection and Preservation of lakes, ponds and water bodies in the State of Tripura.

In pursuance of the Judgment & Order dated 16.08.2016 of the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura in WP(C)(PIL) No.2 of 2014 in the matter of Shri Bibash Ch.Saha Vs. State of Tripura & Ors., the Government had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tripura in October, 2016, for framing the guidelines taking into account the suggestions/recommendations of the experts in the field to protect and preserve the ecosystem and environmental balance of all the water bodies in the State. A copy of the Memorandum dated 20th October, 2016 vide which the above Committee was constituted is at **Annexure I**. The Committee submitted a report before the State Government on 27th April, 2016.

2. After careful consideration of the recommendations of the Committee and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 24 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, it is hereby decided that all Local Bodies [like - Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayat, Panchayat Samities, Block Advisory Committees, Zilla Parishad etc.], PWD (R&B), PWD(Water Resource), PWD(Minor Irrigation), Forest Department, Fishery Department, District/Sub-Division/Block level Administrations, Wetland Management Authority of Tripura, Committees of Religious Organization like Matarbari Temple/Kasba Kalibari Temple/Chaturdas Devata Bari Temple etc. and industrial unit or any individual, being owner of a pond, should observe the following guidelines for 'determination of the embankments of water bodies' regarding protection and preservation of ecosystem and environmental balance of water bodies:-

- i. For the existing water bodies which have permanent structures (permanent structure means brick wall, RCC structures, concrete wall etc.), proper provision for free movement of the aquatic life and water and the natural slope may be made by using eco-friendly materials/interventions like earth mounding geotextiles, bamboo, grass etc., wherever feasible and applicable. However, adequate care may be taken to ensure that nearby habitation/structures are also protected from erosion.

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- ii. Disposal of any waste materials (includes solid wastes, bio-medical waste, e-waste, hazardous waste, construction and demolition waste and sewage and effluent as defined under concerned rules) in the water bodies should be strictly prohibited.
- iii. Illumination by using powerful lights (like flood lights, street lights, search lights) should be avoided. Pedestal lights or duly covered tube lights may be installed for illumination of foot-paths, walking tracks etc. It should be ensured that nearby trees are not illuminated. These are to be completed within next 6 months.
- iv. For monitoring of the water bodies, a committee consisting of representatives of the concerned department (owner of the water bodies), Forest Department, Fishery Department, Tripura State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB) and experts from Fishery College should be formed. The committees should periodically check the water quality with the help of TSPCB and take necessary action for maintaining the ecosystem of the water body. The Committee to be constituted within next 1 month.
- v. A committee at State level with concerned stakeholders for monitoring and implementation of these guidelines should be formed. The Committee to be constituted within next 1 month.
- vi. The TSPCB, with the help of concerned stakeholders should take up large scale awareness programmes about various acts and rules about the pollution control and ecological well-being of water bodies in the State. This should be an ongoing activity of the board.

Note :- Where Bamboos, Sal, eucalyptus or other eco-friendly items for pilling is undertaken it should be kept into consideration that no cut-drum sheets or tin plates are fitted with the bullahs as these tin-sheets separate the land and water. This separation of land and water is very unhygienic for the water body and the surrounding areas according to scientists.

3. Authorities of all Local Bodies [like - Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayat, Panchayat Samities, Block Advisory Committees, Zilla Parishad etc.] PWD (R&B), PWD(Water Resource), PWD(Minor Irrigation), Forest Department, Fishery Department, Wetland Management Authority of Tripura, Committee of Religious Organization like Matarbari Temple/Kasba Kalibari Temple/Chaturdas Devata Bari Temple etc, President of different Chamber of Commerce and Industries, are requested to circulate the aforementioned statutory guidelines through their officials for wide compliance.

4. In case of violation of the aforementioned guidelines, the District Magistrate and Collector or the Chairman or the Member Secretary of the Tripura State Pollution Control Board or any other officer authorized in this behalf by it, shall in accordance with the procedure and powers conferred under Section 19 of the

Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and/or Section 49 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, as the case may be, shall initiate legal action.

5. This order shall take immediate effect.

By the order of the Governor,

Charan 19/5/17
(C Murti)

Special Secretary
to the Government of Tripura

Copy to :-

1. The Principal Secretary to the Governor, Tripura, Agartala.
2. The Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Tripura.
3. The P.S/P.A to all the Ministers, Tripura, Agartala.
4. The Chairman, Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Agartala.
5. All Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayat, Panchayet Samities, Block Advisory Committees, Zilla Parishad, Tripura.

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6. The Principal Secretaries/Commissioners/Secretaries/Special Secretaries to the Govt. of Tripura, Agartala.
7. The Member Secretary, Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Agt.
8. All Heads of Department/PSU/Organization/Board/Agency, Tripura.

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9. All DM & Collectors / SDMs / BDOs, Tripura.....
10. The Sabiet of Matabari Tample/ Kasba Kalibari Tample/ Chaturdash Devatabari Tample, Tripura.
11. The Manager, Government Press for publication of this notification in the next issue of official gazette.
12. Sri S. Banik, Scientific Officer, DSTE, Agartala for information & requests to publish the same in Official Website of this Department.

Charan 19/5/17
(C Murti)

Special Secretary
to the Government of Tripura