GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EXCISE :: MEGHALAYA :: SHILLONG

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No. MEG/CE-70/2014/Pt./107, Dated Shillong, the 18th May, 2020.

PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Meghalaya is considering to issue licenses for manufacturing and sale of Homemade fruit Wines in order to promote production of fruit based wines in the State and encourage their sale in domestic and international markets. In this regard, a draft new Rule is hereby uploaded in the Meghalaya State Portal website for any suggestions and views from the citizens of the State, which may be communicated to the Commissioner of Excise, Meghalaya, Shillong, Lower Lachumiere on or before 09th June, 2020 – 5:00 p.m. by hard copy or email at ceshillong01@gmail.com

Sd/-
Commissioner of Excise,
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Memo No. MEG/CE-70/2014/Pt./107-A, Dated Shillong, the 18th May, 2020.

Copy to:-

1. The Director of Information and Public Relations, Meghalaya, Shillong, with a request to cause publication of the above advertisement in English, Khasi & Garo daily Newspapers having wide circulation within the State, on the 19th May, 2020 on payment basis.

2. The Senior Technical Director, NIC Meghalaya, Shillong, with a request to kindly cause uploading of the above advertisement alongwith the draft new Rule in the State Portal on 19th May, 2020, upto 09th June, 2020.

Commissioner of Excise,
Meghalaya, Shillong.

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DRAFT RULE FOR MANUFACTURING AND SALES OF HOMEMADE FRUIT WINES

Government of Meghalaya is in the process of formulating rules for issuing License for Homemade Wines by individuals, firms, societies, etc., both in Centralized Area and non-Centralized Area. A draft of the proposed rules is reproduced below :-

(i) License for production and sale of Homemade Wines by individuals, firms, Societies, etc., both in Centralized Area and non-Centralized Area, shall be granted by the District Collector with the previous sanction of the State Government.

(ii) The holder of license for production and sale of Homemade Wines shall be allowed to store and sell his finished wines at the production centre, but sales to Retail ‘ON’ and ‘OFF’ license holders should be accompanied by a permit issued by the Deputy Commissioner.

(iii) The holder of a license shall pay in advance an annual license fee of Rs.7,500/- for the production and sale of potable Homemade Wines at the designated winery.

(iv) In addition to annual license fee, an advance deposit of Rs.7,500/- for the production and sale of potable Homemade Wine at the designated winery, pledged to Commissioner of Excise, Meghalaya, Shillong, as Security Deposit for a period of 5 (five) years before the commencement of the license for due observance of the terms and conditions of the license. The security will be liable to be forfeited for the mismanagement of the winery or in case of breach of any of the conditions of the license or infringement of any of the Excise Rules, in addition to any other penalty prescribed by the rules. If not forfeited, the same shall be renewed, at the request of the licensee.

(v) Homemade Wines can be sold at the winery and Retail ‘ON’ & ‘OFF’ license premises on pre-payment of all Government levies.

(vi) Strength of the Homemade Wines should not exceed 14% ABV (Alcohol by volume).

(vii) Type of yeasts, fruits, the quantity thereof to be used are to be declared to the Deputy Commissioner, in a prescribed format, before the process of fermentation is undertaken, batch-wise and the quantity of wine produced therein shall be entered in the stock register, maintained in the winery by the wine producers, duly checked and verified by Excise Officials from time to time.
(viii) An Advalorem duty of Rs.100/- per case (12 bottles of 750ml or equivalent) shall be charged prior to sales by the winery and lifting by the Retail ‘ON’ & ‘OFF’ license premises.

(ix) Retailer’s Lifting fee of Rs.2/- per case (12 bottles of 750 ml or equivalent) shall be charged prior to lifting by the Retail ‘ON’ & ‘OFF’ license premises. No MVAT shall be charged on Retailer’s lifting fee.

(x) Entry of sales of the Homemade wines from the winery shall be reflected in the stock register, mentioned in clause (vii).

(xi) Only preservatives that are permitted by FSSAI can be added in the Wines and the licensee shall also produce a license under Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 issued by the Commissionerate of Food Safety, Meghalaya.

(xii) Every batch of Homemade Wines shall be allowed to be sold, only after certification from chemical examiner/chemist, stationed at State Excise Chemical Laboratory, or any Laboratory in recognized University/Institute or any registered Laboratory, showing the strength and quality of the Wine. The Testing Fee as per Laboratory rate is to be borne by the Licensee. The licensee shall also provide instruments to Excise Officers for gauging and proving.

(xiii) An annual registration fee of Rs.2,000/- per label and size wise (1000/750ml/375ml) shall be charged for Homemade Wines.

(xiv) Temporary Bar license fee of Rs.2,000/- per Bar/Stall per day shall be charged for Homemade Wines.

(xv) Minimal rate of MVAT at the rate of 1% of 40% shall be charged as incentive for being locally produced, on the cost price and advalorem duty of Homemade Wines.

(xvi) Spoilt or sedimented wine shall be destroyed in the presence of an Excise officer not below the rank of Inspector of Excise, on prior approval of the Commissioner of Excise, based on chemical report and excise levies calculated thereof shall be waived off. Entry of such cases should be made in the stock register, as mentioned in clause (vii).

(xvii) The timings for the sales at the winery shall be same as the timings followed by IMFL ‘OFF’ license premises, notified by the State Government from time to time.
(xviii) Terms and conditions for obtaining Homemade Wines license – Any person desiring to obtain a license for production and sale of Homemade Wines shall apply in writing to the Deputy Commissioner of the District in which the Winery is proposed to be set up, stating the following alongwith supporting documents:–

(a) Name and location of the premises.
(b) Name of applicant with the Father’s/Husband’s name and present and permanent address in full.
   (N.B.: Marriage Certificate should be enclosed in the case of married applicant).
(c) Present age of the applicant/s.
(d) Sex of applicant/s.
(e) Educational qualifications.
(f) Caste and community to which the applicant belongs.
(g) Whether the applicant’s is/are citizens of India.
(h) Present and past occupation of the applicant/s.
(i) Financial soundness certificate.
(j) Sales Tax Clearance Certificate/No Objection Certificate from Taxation Department.
(k) Professional Tax Certificate from ADC/Municipal.
(l) Verification of antecedents by Police.
(m) Trading license in case of non-tribal.
(n) Land document (ownership/rented/lease).
(o) FSSAI Certificate.
(p) Detail site plan of the building which he/she intends to use as Winery for production, storing and sale of Homemade Wines alongwith production capacity.
(q) The application form shall be affixed with a Court Fee Stamp of Rs.25/-.

(xix) The application with all related documents shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Excise alongwith a site enquiry report by an Excise officer duly recommended by the Deputy Commissioner of the District. The Commissioner of Excise after examining the case shall forward the same to Government for approval.

Any suggestions and views from the citizens of the state, on the above proposal may be communicated to the Commissioner of Excise, Meghalaya, Shillong, Lower Lachumiere on or before 09th of June, 2020 - 5:00 PM by **hard copy** or email at ceshillong01@gmail.com

[Signature]
Commissioner of Excise,
Meghalaya, Shillong