

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC
RELATIONS

Press Release No.269/19

Practice of Manual Scavenging abolished

Shillong, June 18th, 2019 : In pursuance of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (Civil) No. 583 of 2003 & in accordance with "The Provision of Employment as Manual Scavenger and their Rehabilitation Acts, 2013", the practice of Manual Scavenging have been abolished.

Therefore no person, local authority or any agency shall construct an insanitary latrine or engage or employ, either directly or indirectly, a manual scavenger, and every person so engaged or employed shall stand discharged immediately from any obligation, express or implied, to do manual scavenging.

Also, no person, local authority or any agency shall engage or employ, either directly or indirectly, any person for hazardous cleaning of a sewer or a septic tank.

Contravention of the Act is punishable with imprisonment up to two years or with a fine up to two lakh rupees or with both for the first contravention. Any subsequent contravention is punishable with imprisonment up to five years or with a fine up to five lakh rupees or with both.

All citizens are also requested to report cases of employment of person/s as manual scavengers to the nearest Police Station for registration of the case.

This was informed by the Chief Executive Officer, Shillong Municipal Board.