

No. MSPCB/TB-101/2024/2025-2026/19

Dated Shillong, the 16th April, 2025

PROHIBITORY ORDER

Whereas, as per the regular inspection carried out by the Board's Officials in Umiam Industrial Estate, it was observed that there was heavy smoke emitting out of open burning within the Industrial Estate.

Whereas, such activities whether of agricultural waste, plastic, or other materials, significantly harms human health. The practice releases a variety of toxic pollutants, including particulate matter (PM), carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which can irritate the respiratory system and exacerbate conditions like asthma, bronchitis, and other chronic lung diseases. Long-term exposure to these pollutants is linked to increased risks of heart disease, stroke, and even cancer. Additionally, open burning contributes to air pollution, which can affect vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and those with preexisting health conditions, leading to greater morbidity and mortality rates.

Now, therefore, the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board in exercise of powers conferred upon it under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 do hereby direct –

The industries located at Umiam Industrial Estate, to refer to and strictly follow the **Public Notice referenced in letter T.O. No. MPCB/SWM-5/2006/2020-21/70, dated Shillong, 14th December 2020** available at the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board's Website which states as under :

Prohibition on burning, throwing, burying of waste on streets/open spaces/water bodies etc

1. Rule 4 Sub Rule 2 of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 prohibited waste generator from throwing, burning or burying the solid waste generated by him, on streets, open public spaces or in the drain or water bodies;
2. Rule 15 (G) of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 directed the waste generators not to litter i.e. throw or dispose of any waste such as paper, water bottles, liquor bottles, soft drink cans, tetra packs, fruit peel, wrappers, etc., or burn or burry waste on streets, open public spaces, drains, water bodies and to segregate the waste at source as prescribed under these rules and hand over the segregated waste to the authorized waste pickers or waste collectors authorized by the local body;
3. Rule 15 (K) of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 directed the street sweepers not to burn tree leaves collected from street sweeping and store them separately and handover to the waste collectors or agency authorized by local body;
4. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in its Judgement pronounced on 22 December, 2016 page No. 87 in the matter of Mrs. Almitra H. Patel and Capt JS. Velu Vs, Union of India, and Others. in the Original Application No. 199 of 2 of 2014 prohibited open burning of waste on lands, including landfill sites. Any violator shall be liable to pay environmental compensation of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) only in case of simple burning, while Rs 25,000 (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand) only in case of bulk waste burning. The Environmental compensation shall be recovered as arrears of land revenue by the competent authority in accordance with law;

Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board

Forests & Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya

'ARDEN' Lumpyngad, Shillong - 793014

Website : <http://megspcb.gov.in>



5. All local authorities / bodies (includes the municipal corporation, nagar nigam, municipal council, nagarpalika, nagar Palikaparishad, municipal board, nagar panchayat and town panchayat, census towns, notified areas and notified industrial townships with whatever name they are called in different States) shall ensure compliance to the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and orders judgment passed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on the subject matter;

In view of the above, violators of this order shall be penalized as per above provisions.

MEMBER SECRETARY

Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong

Memo: No. MSPCB/TB-101/2024/2025-2026/19-A

Dated Shillong, the 16th April, 2025

1. The Deputy Commissioner, Ri-Bhoi District for kind information.
2. The Director of Commerce and Industries, Meghalaya, Shillong for information and necessary action.
3. The Divisional Forest Officer, East Khasi Hills & Ri Bhoi (T) Division, Shillong for information and necessary action.
4. All Saw Mills and Briquettes manufacturing unit under Umiam Industrial Estate, Meghalaya for information and necessary action.

ajc

MEMBER SECRETARY

Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board
Shillong