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PART-V

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

The 5th November, 2020.

No.LB.128/LA/2020/2.— The Meghalaya Minerals Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2020 introduced in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly on the 5th November, 2020 together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons is published under Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly for general information.

THE MEGHALAYA MINERALS CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020**A
BILL**

further to amend the Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 (Meghalaya Act No. 7 of 1988).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Meghalaya in the Seventy-first Year of the Republic of India as follows :-

Short title and commencement.	1. (1) This Act may be called the Meghalaya Minerals Cess (Amendment) Act, 2020. (2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.
Amendment of Section 3.	2. In the Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 (Meghalaya Act No. 7 of 1988), in Section 3, - (a) after the word "limestone", the words "Iron ore, Building stone, Boulder, Gravel, Ordinary sand, Ordinary clay, Ordinary earth, Brick earth, Slate, Shale, Granite, Quartz, Quartzite, Sandstone" shall be inserted; (b) after the word "quarry", the words "or any land" shall be inserted.
Amendment of Section 4.	3. In the Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 (Meghalaya Act No. 7 of 1988), in sub-section (1) of Section 4, after clause (d), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely; - *(e) Iron ore, rupees one hundred and ten per tonne; (f) Building stone and Boulder, rupees twenty-five per cubic meter; (g) Gravel and Ordinary sand, rupees thirty per cubic meter; (h) Ordinary clay, Ordinary earth and Brick earth, rupees twenty-five per cubic meter; (i) Quartz, Slate and Shale, rupees twenty-five per tonne; (j) Quartzite and Sandstone, rupees sixty per cubic meter; (k) Granite, rupees two hundred and fifty per cubic meter".
Amendment of Section 5.	4. In the Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 (Meghalaya Act No. 7 of 1988), in Section 5,- (a) in the clause (a), the word "and" shall be deleted; (b) after clause (b), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely : - *(c) improvement of public health; (d) drinking water supply; and (e) physical infrastructure development". (c) the existing proviso after clause (b) shall be replaced with the following proviso, namely : - *provided that not less than twenty five percent of the proceeds so collected shall at any time be utilized for the purpose referred to in clause (a)".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 was enacted to provide for levy and collection of Cess on some minerals for development of primary education and development and improvement of mining areas.

2. In order to augment revenue resources of the State, it is decided to amend Section 3 of Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 to levy Cess on 14 (fourteen) new minerals viz. iron ore, building stone, granite, boulder, ordinary sand, ordinary clay, ordinary earth, gravel, slate, shale, brick earth, quartz, quartzite and sandstone and also fix the rate of cess for each mineral.

3. To augment revenue resources of the State, it is decided to amend the Section 3 of Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988 to levy Cess on minerals extracted or removed from 'any lands' in addition to mine or quarry.

4. To expand the activities for which cess amount can be utilize, it is decided to amend the Section 5 of the Act to include improvement of public health, drinking water supply and physical infrastructure development in addition to purpose mentioned under clause (a) and clause (b) of Section 5 of the aforesaid Act.

5. To achieve the primary objectives of the Meghalaya Minerals Cess Act, 1988, it is proposed to utilize not less than 25% of the amount collected for the purpose of development of primary education.

6. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

CONRAD K. SANGMA,
Chief Minister-in-charge
Mining and Geology Department.

ANDREW SIMONS,
Commissioner & Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill will not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State of Meghalaya.