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NOTIFICATION

No. B. 13017/84/2016-UD&PA, the 19th July, 2017. Whereas the *Government of Mizoram (Allocation of Business) Rules, 2014* has allocated the subject of "Unclaimed dead Bodies" to the Department of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation vide Notification No. A. 46013/1/2013-GAD dt. 10th August, 2015;

AND whereas, there is a need to have a proper system put in place for the disposal of unclaimed dead bodies;

AND whereas, it is incumbent upon the Department to act as a nodal department for making arrangement for the disposal of the dead bodies by way of cremation or burial and to keep a record of the dead bodies disposed of;

Now therefore, in the interest of the general public, the Governor is pleased to notify the Mizoram Urban Areas (Disposal of Unclaimed Dead Bodies) Guidelines, 2017 for general information.

Dr. C. Vanlalramsanga,
Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram,
Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Deptt.

THE MIZORAM URBAN AREAS (DISPOSAL OF UNCLAIMED DEAD BODIES) GUIDELINES, 2017

1. These guidelines may be called the "Mizoram Urban Areas (Disposal of Unclaimed Dead Bodies) Guidelines, 2017.
2. It shall extend to all urban areas in Mizoram except areas falling under Lai Autonomous District Council, Mara Autonomous District Council, and Chakma Autonomous District Council unless otherwise notified by the Government.
3. For the purpose of these guidelines:
 - (1) 'Cemetery' means a place where the dead bodies are laid / buried.
 - (2) 'Crematorium' means a facility where dead bodies are cremated or burned or incinerated.
 - (3) 'Disposal' means the action or process of getting rid of a dead body.
 - (4) 'Unclaimed dead body' means a dead body which is not claimed by anyone and whose relative cannot be traced or identified for the collection of the dead body.

- (5) 'Coffin' means a box used for putting dead bodies for burial.
- (6) 'Government' means State Government of Mizoram.
- (7) 'Honorarium' means a payment given for professional service in connection with the disposal of dead bodies.
- (8) 'District Magistrate' means District Magistrate of a district and includes Additional District Magistrate or any other Executive Magistrate empowered in this behalf by the District Magistrate.
- (9) 'Sanitation Officer' means a Sanitation Officer designated or appointed by the Government. It includes Senior Sanitation Officer and Assistant Sanitation Officers or any other officer designated in this behalf.
- (10) 'Undertaker' means an official in-charge to carry out the disposal.

4. **COMMON CEMETERY:**

The Government may designate a place for burial of unclaimed dead bodies to be named 'Common Cemetery'. Sanitation Officer may be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of common cemeteries.

5. **CREMATORUIM:**

The Government may designate or establish a place for cremation of unclaimed dead bodies. Sanitation Officer or any other person or agency authorized by the Government may be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the facility.

6. **DISPOSAL OF UNCLAIMED DEAD BODIES:**

Whenever or wherever there is an unclaimed dead body, the following procedures shall apply –

- (1) Police Personnel shall carry out investigation as per prescribed procedure.
- (2) Post-mortem examination shall be carried out by a Medical Officer (MO), authorized to ascertain the cause of death.
- (3) Police Officer shall obtain written permission from District Magistrate for disposal of the unclaimed dead body.
- (4) After written order is issued by District Magistrate, the Police shall hand over the dead body to the Sanitation Officer who shall dispose of the dead body as prescribed under these rules.

7. **REGISTRATION:**

Whenever there is an unclaimed dead body, registration shall be maintained with the following particulars –

- 1) Name (if known) _____
- 2) Address (if known) _____
- 3) Date of expiry (if known) _____
- 4) Post Mortem Exam Status _____
- 5) Registration No. _____
- 6) Plot No. _____
- 7) Magistrate Order No. & Date _____
- 8) Date of disposal _____
- 9) Name of Undertaker _____

(Notes: If date of death is not known approximate expiry date may be shown)

8. **PLOT FOR BURIAL PLACE:**

The Sanitation Officer or his representative shall decide a specified plot for burial of the unclaimed dead body.

9. **RE-USE OF PLOT:**

Plot used for burial may be re-used after it is deemed fit for reuse by the Sanitation Officer.

10. **SAFETY MEASURE:**
Any person engaged in the burial of the dead body shall be provided with safety gears such as hand gloves, mask, etc. The dead body should be properly covered with polythene or other such materials used for containing a corpse during transportation. Safety precautions against any spreading of disease should be prepared.
11. **HONORARIUM:**
The Sanitation Officer shall issue Detailment Order of persons who will be involved in the disposal of dead bodies. Every person detailed may be entitled an honorarium the amount of which may be prescribed by the Govt. from time to time.
12. **FUNERAL FUNCTION:**
If deemed appropriate by the Sanitation Officer, funeral function may be conducted by engaging religious leaders of the same faith of the deceased. In such cases, appropriate honorarium may be arranged as prescribed by the Govt. from time to time.
13. **CEMETERY SHED:**
A cemetery shed may be constructed at the burial ground for storing all burial gears and equipment.
14. **MATERIALS FOR DISPOSAL:**
For disposal of unclaimed dead body, materials mentioned should be kept in the cemetery shed or crematorium by Sanitation Officer.
- 1) Coffin
 - 2) Digging tools
 - 3) Coil of rope
 - 4) Electrical items
 - 5) Emergency light
 - 6) Silpoulin/Tarpaulin
 - 7) Raincoat
 - 8) Hand Gloves
 - 9) Face masks
 - 10) Cement work materials
 - 11) Gas
 - 12) Any other tools or machineries required
15. **PLOT MARK:**
The Sanitation Officer shall specify a plot for each burial which shall be marked by its specific plot number for identification.
16. **FUND FOR BURIAL:**
The expenditure for disposal of unclaimed dead bodies shall be allocated in its appropriate Head of Account.

2217	-	Urban Dev.
01	-	State Direction
800	-	Direction & Administration
06	-	Disposal of unclaimed dead body
50	-	other charges.