RULES FOR THE GRANTS-IN-AID TO DISTRICT COUNCILS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST SCHEMES

Whereas it is expedient to lay down rules regulating the terms and conditions for sanction of grants-in-aid to District Councils for implementation of Forest Schemes in the District Council Sector, it is hereby framed as follows :

1. Short title and commencement. (1) These rules may be called the Rules for Grants-in-aid to District Councils for Implementation of Forest Schemes.

(2) These rules will come into force with immediate effect.

2. Definitions. (1) In these rules, the word "Council' means a District Council or a Regional Council, as the case may be, constituted under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution.

(2) "Grants-in-aid" means a recurring or a non-recurring grant to the Council, as the case may be.

3. Admissibility of grant. The grant is admissible under the following conditions :

(i) The grant will be utilised only for the purpose of implementation of the Forest Schemes as technically approved by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya ;

(ii) The grant will not be used for any purpose other than for the scheme technically approved by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya ;

(iii) In the event of contravention and non-fulfilment by the Council of any of the conditions of the grant, future grant will be withheld and the grants already released to the Council shall be recovered in such manner as the Government of Meghalaya may deem necessary.

4. Mode of payment. (1) Payment should be made to the Council by cheque to be credited to the personal ledger account of the Council concerned.

(2) The Council should sign a voucher in the acknowledgement of receipt of the cheque which will be accounted for in the office of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya.

(3) At the end of the financial year the Council should submit a full progress report of expenditure and works for the whole year indicating the physical achievement of target reached and expenditure in detail in the proforma I and II appended to these rules.

(4) The accounts in connection with the implementation of Forest Schemes in the Council Sector should be operated by the Forest Department of the District or Regional Council.

(5) A Subsidiary Cash Book should be maintained by the Council separately for the amount received as grants for Forest Schemes.

(6) The accounts as far as they relate to the grants for forest schemes, shall be subject to audit by the Accountant General, Assam and Meghalaya and also by the Examiner of Local Accounts, Meghalaya.

(7) The grant on any item as per sanctioned scheme shall be released to the Council only on production of the Utilisation Certificate for the grant earlier released for the same Scheme. If there is any unspent amount from the previous sanction, then the same will be shown deducted from the grants to be released.

(8) All Utilisation Certificates will have to be signed by the Chief Forest Officer/Divisional Forest Officer of the District Council and countersigned by the Chief Executive Officer.

All such certificates will have to be submitted in triplicate—one copy for the Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest Department, one copy for the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya and the other for the Accountant General, Assam and Meghalaya.

5. **Field examination of the scheme.** In order to have a first hand knowledge and information about the achievement of the schemes which are technically approved by the Chief Conservator of Forests, after necessary feasibility study, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya may direct each year a Forest Officer of the State Government not below the rank of Deputy Conservator of Forest to undertake a spot study on the working of such schemes. The findings of such Forest Officer with the comments of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya may be forwarded to the District Council concerned for taking necessary action with intimation to the Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest Department.

The District Council shall render necessary assistance and co-operation to the said Forest Officer for carrying out the above study :

Provided that on the recommendation of audit either by the Accountant General, Meghalaya, or Examiner of Local Accounts, Meghalaya, the Government may direct the Forest Officer of the State Government not below the rank of Deputy Conservator of Forest and the Chief Forest Officer of the District Council concerned to carry out joint inspection and verification of the utilisation of the Government grant given for the purpose to the District Council. The findings may be forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest Department and District Council concerned for necessary action.

6. In case of any doubts as to the interpretation of these rules, the decision of the Government of Meghalaya will be final.

7. The rules may be relaxed or modified at any time by the Government of Meghalaya in the Forest Department in consultation with Finance Department.

STATEMENT I

Outlay and Expenditure for the Annual Plan

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Head of Development

Serial No.	Name of scheme	Plan outlay	Expenditure during				Total	Shortfall (−) or Excess (+) if any	Remarks
			Ist Quarter April to June	2nd Quarter July to September	3rd Quarter October to December	4th Quarter January to March			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

N. B. MNP/Centrally Sponsored/Centrally Sector Schemes to be shown separately.

STATEMENT II

Physical Targets planned and achieved during....

Head of Development

Serial No.	Item	Unit	Target fixed for	Target actually achieved during the Quarter				Total	Reason for short-fall (−) or excess (+	Difficulties/Bottle-necks if any, in implementing Scheme
				1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

N. B. MNP/Centrally Sponsored/Centrally Sector Scheme to be shown separately.

UNITED KHASI-JAINTIA HILLS AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT (MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF FORESTS) ACT, 1958*

(United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Act I of 1959)

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*Published in the Assam Gazette, dated 22-1-1959. Also *see* Notification No. TAD/R/25/53, dated 24-1-1959, published in the Assam Gazette, dated 4-2-1959.