DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES: MEGHALAYA

INTRODUCTION:

Till 1972, the activities of Fisheries in Meghalaya constituted a part and parcel of the then Agriculture Department of the newly created state. With the advance in time and with the availability of modern techniques in the development activities of Fisheries it has been suitably bifurcated and given the status of a separate department for better implementation of Fishery Programmes in the state. Meghalaya is blessed with a great potential for development of fish culture through cultivable water areas like pond, tanks, reservoirs, lakes, rivers, streams etc. of late fish farming has become very popular in the state and considering the fact that it brings a good source of income to the pond owners, many have taken fish farming in the rural areas as their primary occupation.

With an aim to generate rural employment particularly among the un-employed youth, boast the economy and enhance fish production, the Department in addition to the centrally sponsored scheme viz. Fish Farmer Development Agency etc., the Department has also introduced a number of schemes such as Aquaculture for development of “1000 ponds”, Integrated Fish Farming, Community Fishery Projects, Culture and Breeding of Ornamental fishes etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP:

At present the Department is headed by the Minister of Fisheries assisted by the Commissioner and Secretary Fisheries and Under Secretary in the Secretariat.

The function of the Department is to lay down policy, guide lines, principles for development, management, exploitation and conservation of Fishery resources in the state and other allied matters. The Department also approves, issue directives and sanction of schemes proposed by the Directorate.

a) Directorate: - The Directorate is headed by the Director of Fisheries. However the post is being held by the senior civil service officer since the inception of the state. The Director of Fisheries is assisted by one Deputy Director of Fisheries, One Assistant Director of Fisheries, One Planning Officer and One Fishery Information Officer. The appointment of these officers is based on recommendation by the Department Promotion Committee selected from amongst the senior most Technical officers of the Department based on seniority.

b) Deputy Director of Fisheries: - The next higher post before the rank of Director of Fisheries is the Deputy Director. The functions and duties of the Deputy Director of Fisheries is to assist the Director in all matters specially to all technical matters, monitoring etc. and to general administration, establishment, supervision and inspect implementation of various schemes.

c) Assistant Director of Fisheries: - The next higher post below the rank of Deputy Director of Fisheries is the Assistant Director. The post was transferred to Tura with a view to have a better supervision in connection with implementation of schemes in Garo Hills.

d) Planning Officer: - The next higher post is Planning Officer and Fishery Information Officer. The duty and responsibility of the Planning Officer is to assist the Director of Fisheries in examining and scrutinizing the plan proposal from the districts, preparation of plan schemes, evaluate and monitor implementation of schemes etc.

e) Fishery Information Officer: - This post is equivalent in rank to Planning Officer in the Directorate with the same pay scale. The post is filled up by Superintendent of
Fisheries based on seniority-cum-merit. The function and duties of the Fishery Information Officer is to assist the Director of Fisheries in matters relating to the Fishery information and extension programmes through training, exhibitions, seminar, workshop, etc., and also to organize awareness programmes for the purpose of popularizing fish culture and conservation measures, besides publication of booklets, leaflets, training manual etc., to be distributed to the general public and to the fish farmers in particulars.

f) **Statistical Officer:** - The duty and responsibility of the Statistical Officer is to collect, compile and tabulate all statistical data’s for submission to the Central and State Government including other Corporation and Agencies.

g) **Research Officer:** - The duty and responsibility of the Research Officer is to conduct research works, programme analysis in matters related to fisheries. This post is equivalent to the Superintendent of Fisheries and is filled up by means of promotion from the Fishery Officers based on seniority-cum-merit.

h) **Assistance Engineer:** - The duty and responsibility of the Assistance Engineer is to prepare plan estimate, to conduct survey and site inspection etc. in matters relating to fisheries construction works at the Directorate of Fisheries.

i) **Registrar:** - The duty and responsibility of the Registrar is to look after the establishment matters, correspondence relating to the District and Sub-Divisional, posting and transfer of Ministerial staff, departmental proceedings, appointment of Grade III and IV staff and maintenance of leave accounts etc.

j) **Junior Engineer:** - The duty and responsibility of the Junior Engineer is to assist the Assistance Engineer in all matters relating to construction works.

k) **Fishery Officer:** - The duty and responsibility of the Fishery Officer is to assist the Fishery Information Officer and Planning Officer in matters relating to extension services, Publicity and Information, formulation of plan scheme, Budget estimate, etc.

l) **Research Assistance:** - To assist the Research Officer in matters relating to fishseed production and research works.

m) **Statistical Assistance:** - The duty and responsibility of the Statistical Assistance is to assist the Statistical Officer in matters relating to collection, compilation and tabulation of statistical data’s and other related matters.

n) **Translator:** - The duty and responsibility of the Translator is to translate Fishery booklets etc. from English to local language i.e. Khasi and Garo

o) **Fishery Demonstrator:** - Fishery Demonstrator is the grass root field level Technical staff at Block level who are directly involved with the public in matters relating to Fisheries activities.

p) **Ministerial Staff:** - They are responsible for the establishment, Issue and Receipt, correspondence, Typing diaries, etc.

**Functions of the District Officers**

a) **Superintendent of Fisheries:** - The Superintendent of Fisheries is the head of the District Office and is responsible for implementation of schemes sanctioned by the Government, management of Departmental farms etc. They are also responsible for administration, implementation and supervision of various developmental activities in the Districts.

b) **Reservoir Development Officer/Farm Superintendent, Jamge:** - Both these posts are of equivalent rank, with the same pay scale as that of the Superintendent of Fisheries. The duties and responsibilities of the Reservoir Development Officer is to manage and to develop fishery activities in the Reservoir on scientific line and is assisted by Fishery Demonstrators, Fishermen, River Guards etc. The Farm Superintendent is in-charge of the Regional Fish seed Farm Jamge. The responsibility
of the Farm Superintendent is to manage the farm and to produce fishseeds and is assisted by Fishery Officer, Fishery Demonstrators, and Fishermen etc.

c) **Fishery Officer**: - The Fishery Officer is responsible for all developmental activities in the sub-division/assist the Superintendent of Fisheries of the District.

d) **Fishery supervisor**: - This category of post is usually placed in charge of a farm or region under the District Officer or the sub-Divisional Officer.

e) **Fishery Demonstrator**: - Fishery Demonstrator is the grass root field level Technical staff at Block level who are directly involved with the public in matters relating to Fisheries activities.

f) **Ministerial Staff**: - They are responsible for the establishment, Issue and Receipt, correspondence, Typing diaries, etc.
1. (A) Organisational Structure

1. P. O. – Planning Officer
2. F. I. O. – Fishery Information Officer
3. S. O. – Statistical Officer
4. R. O. – Research Officer
5. A. E. – Assistant Engineer
6. F. O. – Fishery officer
7. J. E. – Junior Engineer
8. S. A. – Statistical Assistant
9. R. A. – Research Assistant
10. F. S. – Fishery Supervisor
11. Ministerial Staff, Upper Divisional Assistant, Lower Divisional Assistant and Typist
12. Grade IV Staff: Peon Mali, Jugali, Office Cleaner and Chowkidar

Director of Fisheries
(Head of the Department)

Deputy Director

P. O.
F. I. O.
F. O.
S. O.
S. A.
R. O.
A. E.
Registrar

Technical

Ministerial Staff

R. A.
F. D.

Grade IV

Ministerial Staff

Grade V
1. (B) Organisation Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Asst. Director (Tura)</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>R. D. O.</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>S. F. (7 nos.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>F. O.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>F. S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>F. D. (2 nos.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>F. D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>Grade IV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>Grade IV</td>
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<td>Sub-division</td>
<td>Grade IV</td>
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</tbody>
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1. Asst. Director – Assistant Director
2. S. F. – Superintendent of Fisheries
3. R. D. O. – Reservoir Development Officer
4. Farm Supdt. – Farm Superintendent
5. F. S. – Fishery Supervisor
6. F. O. – Fishery Officer
7. F. D. Fishery Demonstrator
8. Ministerial Staff, Upper Divisional Assistant, Lower Division Assistant and typist.
9. Grade IV Staff: Fisherman, Peon and Chowkidar