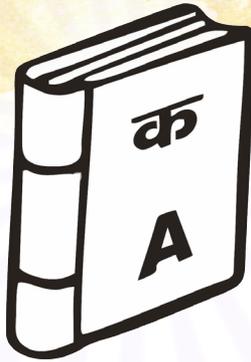


PEOPLE'S DOCUMENT

2018



NATIONAL PEOPLE'S PARTY



MISSION 2018

NPP FOR A NEW MEGHALAYA



PREFACE

Elections come and go, yet the people's struggle to create a government that looks after their interests based on the principles of economic, social, political and environmental justice continues. The 2018 elections will be a watershed event for the people of Meghalaya and for the National People's Party (NPP), for we are rising to the challenge of re-imagining and re-creating not only the destiny of the State, but more crucially, the present reality of our people. Let this election be an opportunity for all of us to respond to the true vocation and calling of what it means to be a politician, and in the process redefine politics in the state of Meghalaya.

For that reason, we as a party have drafted a "People's Document" which outlines our political vision and also prescribes a road map to translate that vision into reality in the next 5 years and the consequent years thereafter. We have conducted extensive research on the performance of successive governments of the last 15 years in order to understand the systemic flaws that afflict the state of Meghalaya in the areas of governance and public service delivery. Based on the findings of this research, we were able to frame this "People's Document"; a document that will provide direction to the National People's Party as we undertake the journey to fulfil the needs and aspirations of our people.

The "People's Document" touches upon key aspects of governance in areas including Education, Healthcare, Infrastructure, Public Utilities, Agriculture, Employment Generation, Youth Welfare, Women Empowerment and Environmental Protection. The "Document" is not just another Election Manifesto; rather, it is the foundation on which the contractual obligation between the Party and the people of Meghalaya stands upon. It is not only our guiding light, but will also act as a constant reminder of our promise to the people of Meghalaya which we must honour at all costs.

It has been rightly said, "Leadership is not about the next election, it's about the next generation". True to the name of our party, it is our prerogative and duty to lead the people of Meghalaya, keeping in mind the needs, challenges and opportunities of its citizens and of its future generations.



PEOPLE'S DOCUMENT



PLANNING AND FINANCE

1. The Party will work towards a systematic and workable planning of developmental programmes to ensure reasonable standard of living for every resident of Meghalaya.
2. The Party will work towards ensuring timely sanction of developmental funds to minimize the delay in the implementation of projects.
3. Strengthen and empower the monitoring mechanisms for effective and productive implementation of State and central schemes to ensure quality and to minimize wastage of revenue.
4. Work towards ensuring equitable and need-based distribution of the available revenue resources of the State and the Centre.
5. Initiatives will be taken to enhance and provide effective service delivery mechanisms.



FISCAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS

1. The Party will formulate an Economic Development Policy of the State by initiating fiscal and economic policy reforms for sustainable and all round development of the State.
2. The Party will work towards rationalization of State Taxation System (Taxation structure of the State will be reviewed and rationalized by broad-basing the taxation policy and promotion of investment, both domestic and foreign, to enhance the financial strength of the State)
3. Initiate mechanisms to rationalize and control leakage and other wasteful government expenditure.
4. Create an efficient and robust tax collection system to bring down the cost of tax collection and other administrative expenditure.
5. The existing system of tax concessions, subsidies to the industrial units will be reviewed to ensure justice and equitable extension of tax concessions and subsidies.



EDUCATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

1. The Party will formulate and frame an effective Education Policy of the State focusing on improving the quality of education at all levels.
2. The Party will re-draft the School Curriculum in line with NCERT guidelines and incorporation of the State's Socio-cultural, Political and Historical knowledge system into the curriculum
3. The school drop-out rate in the State is one of the highest in the country. Steps will be taken for the rehabilitation of school and college drop-outs.
4. The Party will take initiatives to introduce effective and need-based vocational and skill development programmes through up-gradation and modernization of existing institutions including ITIs, in an effort to enhance employability of the unemployed.
5. The existing gap in professional, technical and vocational education will be addressed through Public-Private Participation (PPP mode) to encourage setting up of institutions and service providers in the State.
6. The Party will ensure that every block and sub-division has at least one Higher Secondary School with adequate infrastructure, proper library, science laboratory, information & communication technology facilities and promote innovative and modern systems of learning.
7. The Party will initiate efforts to bring amicable solutions and settlement of pertinent issues and problems of the teaching fraternity.
8. Steps will be taken to set up a Counseling Cell in each School/ College.
9. Steps will also be taken to create a knowledge bank and improve library facilities in all government schools.
10. To ensure M.I.L is made a compulsory subject for MBOSE syllabus till class X.



MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE

1. The Party will formulate the State Health Policy to provide and enhance accessibility to health care facilities in both rural and urban areas of the State.
2. The Party will ensure health care services to the people in all aspects of reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health, communicable, non-communicable and occupational diseases.



3. Improved access and affordability of quality secondary and tertiary care services will be ensured through a combination of government and private service providers.
4. Facilitate and encourage the operation and growth of the private health care sector and para-medical institutions to enhance health care and improve effective investigation of diseases.
5. Shortage of medical and other para-medical staff will be addressed.
6. The Party will initiate steps to regulate private hospitals to rationalise health care costs and make quality healthcare accessible to one and all.
7. The Party will initiate institutional support of indigenous systems of medicine by investing in scientific research and development. Steps will also be taken to boost Eco and Medical Tourism in the State.

WATER RESOURCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING (PHE)



1. Initiatives will be taken to address scarcity and shortage of potable drinking water in the State in both rural and urban areas by tapping all the available water resources in the State including rain water harvesting.
2. The party will initiate a systematic planning for water supply through hybrid water supply systems and in the next five years. A model project on hybrid water supply and distribution system will be established in all the districts of Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Hills.
3. Initiate creation of grids for ensuring better and mechanized water supply system by tapping available streams and rivers including rainwater wherever possible.
4. Creation of better infrastructure with implementation of latest scientific interventions to ensure efficient water distribution in towns, cities and rural areas.
5. Ground water re-charging and conservation of other water bodies will be taken up through protection and conservation of catchment areas by encouraging and improving forestation.

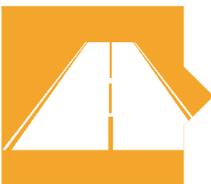


6. Rain water harvesting project on a pilot basis will be set up in different towns of the State to aid and boost rainwater conservation and ground water table re-charging through effective management and implementation of viable watershed projects.

AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY

1. The Party will formulate an effective State Agriculture and Horticulture Policy.
2. Initiate measures to improve agricultural and horticultural production by empowering and supporting farmers through strategic restructuring of the system with thrust on sustainable farming.
3. The Party will initiate agriculture and horticultural mapping to facilitate collection and maintenance of data-base of different crops and products to enable appropriate and need-based planning and implementation of schemes in the State.
4. The Party will also review existing marketing policies to improve the State Agriculture Marketing Board and facilitate better marketing of agricultural produces of the State through a Minimum Support Price (MSP) initiative.
5. Value addition of available horticultural products will be taken up to minimize the wastage of perishable crops and boost marketing of the finished agriculture and horticultural products.
6. Establishment of a world class processing unit for value addition of horticulture and agriculture products on a Public-Private-Partnership mode.
7. To facilitate Crop Insurance Scheme to the farmers to mitigate loss on account of natural and other calamities.
8. Encourage practice of 'organic farming' to enhance production and obtain better returns in the local, national and international markets.
9. Initiatives will be taken to establish an Agriculture and Horticulture Research and Training Institute in the State to improve farming technologies and boost production through introduction of modern technologies in agriculture and horticulture.





ROAD CONNECTIVITY

1. The Party will take steps to improve rural and urban road connectivity.
2. Landlocked clusters of villages to be connected with proper road to key market towns and District Headquarters to improve economic activity of the rural population.
3. The Party will ensure improvement and proper maintenance of all the economically important road links of the State that are considered as life lines to ensure undisrupted movement of people and regular supply of essential commodities.
4. Road connectivity along border towns and villages of Meghalaya will be accorded priority and sufficient intervention will be made to improve the infrastructure facilities
5. A separate division for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana will be created to ensure proper and effective implementation of the projects.



POWER SECTOR

1. The Party will take initiatives to formulate an effective and workable Power Policy.
2. Create hybrid power sources with both renewable and non-renewable resources and take initiatives to tap all the resources of the State to generate more power.
3. The Party will ensure minimum transmission loss through adequate intervention and work towards providing affordable and stable power supply to all areas of State.
4. Take steps to promote green energy and strive to achieve at least 25 % of our power requirement from renewable power resources, which will include setting up of Solar Power Parks in the State.



TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

1. The Party will strive to create an effective State Tourism Policy.
2. Adequate measures will be taken for improvement and upgradation of tourism infrastructure and amenities.
3. Initiatives will be taken to market destinations of Meghalaya to



attract more tourists and facilitate stakeholders with adequate training to further the tourism potential in Meghalaya.

4. Steps will be taken to identify new destinations with focus on eco, cultural and adventure tourism.
5. Upgradation of institutes for skill-based training to create employment in the tourism and hospitality sector.
6. To setup a Tourist Police Force to ensure safety of the Tourists and sanctity of the Tourist spots.

FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT



1. The Party will formulate an effective Forest and Environment Policy.
2. An amendment would be made on the existing Rules and Acts pertaining to forest, environment and wildlife conservation.
3. Increase of budgetary allocation to the Forest & Wildlife Department to boost conservation efforts and to also increase the manpower requirement in the department.
4. Establishment of Climate Change cell in the Forest & Wildlife Department.
5. Upgradation of infrastructure to aid conservation efforts.
6. Upgradation of Forest Training Institutes in Meghalaya for adequate training to the frontline staff.
7. Measures to reduce illegal and unauthorized felling of trees.
8. Through convergence, efforts would be made to ensure livelihood for communities residing close to forest areas, so that their dependence on forest is brought to the minimum.
9. Steps will be taken to reduce man-animal conflict through protection and conservation of animal corridors and improvement of wildlife reserves and sanctuaries.
10. The Party will ensure timely disbursement of relief and compensation to the families affected by wildlife depredation.
11. Encourage forestation and preservation of community forests to increase forest cover by encouraging plantation of fruit-bearing and economically viable plants.



INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE

1. The Party shall strive to formulate a sustainable and environmentally friendly State Industrial Policy.
2. Promote efficient utilization of existing support institutions for both public and private sector industries.
3. Based on the available resources of the State, measures will be taken to set up viable trade centres in the border areas to maximize commercial trading with neighbouring countries.
4. The Party will encourage setting up of agro-based and other small-scale and cottage industries and improve the infrastructure of existing industries to enhance and promote rural economy.



MINING AND GEOLOGY

1. The Party will come up with an appropriate Mining Policy to uphold the interests of the people and the State and will work towards finding amicable and acceptable solutions to the current ban on major and minor minerals including coal.
2. Appropriate infrastructure will be created to streamline the system of revenue collection to minimize revenue loss and maximize revenue earnings of the State.



URBAN DEVELOPMENT & MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

1. The Party will re-examine and review the Meghalaya Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 2004 to provide appropriate regulations for the existing problems in the Urban Development programmes.
2. The Party will expedite the formulation and early implementation of the proposed New Township areas in consultation with the local and indigenous institutions of the State.
3. The Party will work towards improvement of infrastructures including road, sanitation, water supply and power in all the urban areas.
4. Appropriate steps will be taken to ease and reduce traffic congestion in crowded areas and will examine introduction of innovative measures to control such congestion.
5. The Party will also make sustained efforts towards making all our towns clean and green.



SOCIAL WELFARE

1. The Party will make efforts to improve rehabilitation centers for women, children, orphanage and juvenile homes.
2. Set up domestic violence and counseling cells in multiple locations throughout the State.
3. Steps will also be taken to ensure effective implementation of the Central schemes focusing on food and nutrition for women and children.
4. Efforts will also be made towards setting up of free drug rehabilitation centers to counter the problem of drug addiction and drug dependence
5. Take necessary measures to effectively address other social issues concerning the youth and women.
6. Address the issues of child trafficking and sexual assault on children through rigorous enforcement of existing legislation.



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

1. The issues of women and child development will be taken up by ensuring women empowerment. This will be done by providing them with appropriate incentives for engagement in indigenous, traditional and cottage industries.
2. Strengthening of Women Cells in all the police stations to handle crime against women.
3. To address the issues of teenage pregnancy and single motherhood.



SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

1. The Party will formulate an effective Youth Policy.
2. To provide new infrastructure and improve existing infrastructure for sports and indigenous games of the State.
3. To facilitate quality training and coaching to improve competitive skills of our youth.
4. To incentivize the participation in sports and activities not currently popular in the State.
5. Efforts will be taken to encourage healthy competition by organizing tournaments and incentives like recognition of the talent through awards and sponsorship.



ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

1. Efforts shall be made to encourage and promote livestock farming and all other related industries in the State and to establish institutions that provide training and capacity building to support farmers to improve the health of their livestock.
2. Measures will be taken to promote dairy industries in the State.
3. The Party will work towards attaining self sufficiency in poultry, dairy, piggery and other livestock farming by encouraging and promoting rearing of local species and create a regulating mechanism to reduce the use of chemicals and other harmful medications.

ARTS AND CULTURE

1. The Party will formulate an effective Arts and Culture Policy.
2. To promote Arts and Culture in general and the different indigenous arts and cultural practices of the State.
3. To document, preserve, archive and showcase the State's indigenous practices.
4. To strengthen the state's cultural infrastructure to support the state's cultural sector in achieving its economic potential.
5. Establish Research and Development Institutions in collaboration with Universities to facilitate documentation and digitization of information related to indigenous arts and culture.

LAW & ORDER AND INTERNAL SECURITY

1. The Party will work towards ensuring peace, harmony and internal security by strengthening the law and order machinery of the State.
2. Steps will be taken to improve and upgrade all the existing Police Stations and Police Outposts in the State through introduction of modern technology to minimize crime.
3. To establish state-of-the art Forensic Science Laboratories in the State.

SUPPORT NPP
FOR A RESURGENT MEGHALAYA



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