

**DETAIL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR M/s ROSEWOOD HOSPITAL, SARON
VENG, AIZAWL, AIZAWL DISTRICT, MIZORAM**

**VENUE : SARON VENG Y.M.A HALL (SARON INDOOR CONFERENCE HALL), AIZAWL,
MIZORAM**

TIME: 20th November 2018; 11.00 A.M

Introduction:

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India vide S.O. No. 142 (E) dated 17.04.2015 notified that all new Bio- Medical Waste Management Facilities (BMEFs) shall now require prior Environmental Clearance. The Bio- Medical Waste Management Facilities (BMEFs) is grouped under Category B1 projects and thus fall under the purview of the Mizoram SEIAA/SEAC

With no Common Bio- Medical Wastes Treatment Facilities (CBMWTs) in place, the Rose Wood Hospital, a psychiatric hospital at Saron Veng has to manage the Bio- medical wastes generated by its own and thus has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance before obtaining consents under the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The hospital aims to reduce and minimise environmental impact from the wastes generated by the hospital as per the Bio- Medical Wastes Management Rules, 2016.

The public hearing is convened to obtain views, comments & suggestions on the establishment of the Rose Wood Hospital from the people of affected areas.

The lists of participants are listed at Annexure.

The Hearing was presided over by Smt Dr Lalhriatzuali Ralte, Additional Deputy Commissioner (E), Aizawl District, Aizawl, Mizoram at the scheduled date and time. The participants included all sections of life. At the outset, the chairperson after welcoming all the participants briefly explained the reason for holding the Public Hearing. She commented that the Public Hearing conducted today is done as per the Environment Protection Act, 1986, and the rules made there under like the Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 including the BMW Amendment Rules 2018. She further

commented that the hearing is conducted to discuss the effect of the establishment of the health care facility on mankind and our environment. As per the rules, the hearing is to be conducted by the concerned Deputy Commissioner or an officer not below the rank of Additional Deputy Commissioner. As the Deputy Commissioner Dr A. Mathumma, IAS is busy with the coming general Assembly election, she takes her place today. As the hospital under consideration is a psychiatric hospital, it may not generate bio-medical wastes as compared to other hospitals which cater various health care issues. Expressing her concern on the low attendance of the people of the affected areas, she urged the public to be more aware and vigilant on how wastes are being treated and disposed in the hospital and that the government should also be more aware and pay heed to this type of hearing.

The Chairperson conducted a round of introduction of various stakeholders and public who gathered at the hearing. She then invited Smt P.C. Lalmuanpuii, AEE, Mizoram Pollution Control Board for introductory remark. The AEE mentioned that Public hearing is held as per the EIA Notification as amended in 2006. She explained the need and objectives of holding Public Hearing saying that some developmental projects require Environmental Clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India for which Public Hearing is mandatory, hence today's Programme. She added that the hearing was notified in two leading Newspapers in Mizo language and in English for 30 days during which the draft EIA Report prepared by the hospital was kept for suggestion and comments as per the aforesaid rule. She also reported that no suggestions or comments were received from the affected area during this period. She further highlighted that the hearing is meant for the public so that they have a say in the environmental impact of this developmental project but it is not to take approval or consent from the public and the role of the audience. She also mentioned that all proceedings will be recorded in print and in video which will be sent to the SEIAA, Mizoram.

The Chairperson then requested Pu AC Zonunmawia, Consultant, M/s Rose Wood Hospital for a presentation on the project. The consultant informed that all wastes are managed as required by the Rules and explained how bio medical wastes are segregated, treated and disposed. He further said that Sharps, Soiled and Solid wastes except plastic wastes are disposed off into the deep burial pit measuring 6X3X6 at Zemabawk, near KTP Recreation Center while the effluent from the hospital is discharged into drain after disinfection and filtration. He also mentioned that there is no anatomical wastes generation and all microbiological testing are outsourced to Genesis Laboratory. He also stressed that the bio-medical wastes generation would be relatively less as the hospital is a psychiatric hospital

and the wastes management shall be overlooked by the Waste Management Officer and the Waste Management Team appointed and constituted by the hospital.

The Chairperson then invited comments, views and suggestions from participants of the hearing. The main issues raised and clarifications from the project proponent were recorded in details as below:

1. Pu C. Lalmalsawma, Asst. Town Planner, Aizawl Municipal Council (AMC): ‘As per the AMC rules and regulation, permission has been granted for residential building. As the building is being used for establishment of hospital, institutional permission is now required for which all requirements set forth by the AMC Building Regulations and building drawing shall have to be reviewed. The permission may therefore be sought for by the hospital’
2. Mr F. Rochama, Vice President, Saron Veng Branch YMA : ‘Before establishment of the hospital, Khuangchera Section YMA, Saron Veng Branch had submitted their concern to the Branch YMA committee over the safety of the public and the downstream water source if wastes are not properly managed. In this regard, had they themselves disposed the wastes from hospital? Had the deep burial pit really constructed as advocated? Had the arrangement actually made for effluent treatment? Would the effluent affect streams in our locality? Could the Drains into which the treated effluent is discharged be announced?’

- Dr. Vanlaldiki, Rosewood Hospital: *“All wastes are disposed into deep burial pit which measures 6X3X6 ft at Zemabawk. Extreme care is taken with regards to disposal of sharps which are disinfected prior to disposal and the disinfectants used for the purpose are also discharged only after filtration. Other wastes which are mostly plastic package for edible items are disposed into garbage trucks of the Aizawl Municipal Corporation. However, all kinds of bio-medical wastes like IV sets, needles, syringe, gloves etc are mutilated, disinfected and disposed at the Director’s land. All such disposal facilities maintained by the hospital are made available for checking. Occasionally, cement slurry is poured into these wastes, hardened and safe even to the residents at Zemabawk Locality. All the requirements of the Rules are being followed in the hospital and there is nothing to be frightened. Further, samples of blood, urine etc are being outsourced to Genesis Laboratory, Dawrpui, Aizawl for analysis and no such testing is done in the hospital. The Laboratory collects such*

samples from the hospital two to three times a day. Other than IV fluid administration and therapy treatment, wastes generated is not a great deal.

As suggested by the people, Dr Vanlaldiki said that the hospital agreed to oversee liquid wastes disposal in consultation with the Local Council.

3. Mr T.C. Thanzuala, Member, Local Council, Saron Veng: “Has there any plan to expand the Hospital ding? If yes, what is the plan?
 - Dr. Vanlaldiki, Rosewood Hospital: *“We do not have any plan for expansion of the hospital”.*

4. Mr Z. Lalnunmawia, Asst. Secretary, Khuangchera Section, YMA, Saron Veng Branch.
 - a) “When the hospital is properly established and fully equipped, there would be more visitors. Has the hospital authority make any plan for car parking? As of now, to have dropping zone is already a matter of concern”.
 - b) “In the presentation, Fire extinguisher is found lying on the floor. Such installation may not be safe and could be taken away by anyone anytime. Is it possible to properly arrange for installation of the Fire fighting equipments?
“The effluent from the hospital is said to be discharged into streams. If so, into which stream the wastes are discharged? As the stream in question does not have any proper draining route and simply drains out to a place called ‘kawtzawl’. Does waste water from the hospital takes the same course as the stream water?”

Dr. Vanlaldiki, Rosewood Hospital:

- a) *“Being a psychiatric hospital, Confidentiality is strictly maintained and visiting of patients is not allowed most of the time. Even relatives are permitted to visit only once or twice. As such, I don’t think there would be problem with car parking in future. We, the staff are the only ones requiring parking. In some exceptional cases when patient is problematic or required to undergo long time treatment, we let them use hospital staff parking space beside Baptist Church.*

- b) *“Fire extinguisher that you had seen is fitted to the wall but was taken down for photograph. We are deeply concerned with Emergency Fire exit and a plan for construction of two emergency fire exits is under way”.*

c) *The drainage system for the liquid waste generated by the hospital is made in accordance with the recommendation of the representative of Local Council & YMA. All the drainage pipes are connected via a common pipe and drained into the main stream located near Pi Zaii's residence. Waste water that is found flowing beside the step is wastes from kitchen only and no waste water from patients' bathroom are disposed into the stream".*

5. Mr Z. Lalnunmawia, Asst. Secretary, Khuangchera Section, YMA, Saron Veng Branch: "There has been a previous case of leakage of septic tank/septage from this building which had created problems to the residents. Does the hospital have any arrangement to avoid such occurrence?"

Dr. Vanlaldiki, Rosewood Hospital: *"We would manage the problems"*.

6. Mr Z. Lalnunmawia, Asst. Secretary, Khuangchera Section, YMA, Saron Veng Branch "Does the Pollution Control Board have any check list on Hospital Quality Control leh implementation?"

- Pi PC Lalmuanpuii, AEE, MPCB: *"Yes. Compliance / Implementation status is inspected for all hospitals as per the Bio- medical Waste Management Rules. Since, the application for Environmental clearance for Rosewood hospital is still under process, the Board may consider the grant of consent and authorization, which includes specific terms and conditions if the Environmental Clearance is granted. However, the Board conducts a round of inspection for hospitals in Aizawl without fail every year. I request for the cooperation of the public in checking the compliance status as such cooperation could be very fruitful"*.

7. Dr. Lalhriatzuali Ralte, IAS, Additional DC (E), Chairperson :

"As said earlier can the project proponent justify clearly the plans to be carried out by the hospital with regards to the seepage of liquid effluent from the septic tank?"

- Dr. Vanlaldiki, Rosewood Hospital: *"The hospital would strictly ensure that such problem does not arise."*

Dr. Lalhriatzuali Ralte, IAS, Additional DC (E), Chairperson:" It is of outmost importance that protective gear such as face mask, gloves, apron etc be provided to the waste handlers and one must take extra care while handling the waste".

The Chairperson then invited PC Lalmuanpuii, AEE, Mizoram Pollution Control Board to read out the proceeding minutes, which after making necessary correction was signed by the Chairperson on the spot.

The Public Hearing concluded with a vote of thanks from Mrs. K. Lalrinsangi, Rosewood Hospital.