



The Gazette of Meghalaya

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 34

Shillong, Thursday, August 21, 2025

30th Shravana, 1947 (S. E.)

Separate paging is given on this part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART-IIA

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

NOTIFICATIONS

The 28th July, 2025.

No.SW(S) 150/2015/Pt. I/16. - The Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to notify the Revised Bye Laws of the State Society for the Implementation of the Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities (SSIRPD), 2025 with effect from the date of issue of this Notification and until further orders.

PRAVIN BAKSHI,

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Social Welfare Department.

Annexure: Bye-Laws of the State Society for Implementation of Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities (SSIRPD)**A. Preamble**

The State Society for Implementation of Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities (SSIRPD), Meghalaya, established under the Social Welfare Department, Government of Meghalaya, is dedicated to ensuring the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities (PwDs) in all spheres of life. The society draws its mandate from the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD Act, 2016), which enshrines the principles of equality, dignity, and nondiscrimination in fostering an inclusive and rights-based approach to disability empowerment.

In accordance with **Section 3 of the RPwD Act, 2016**, which mandates that the government take affirmative steps to promote and protect the rights of PwDs, the SSIRPD remains steadfast in addressing the barriers that impede access to healthcare, education, employment, and social integration. The society further aligns its interventions with **Section 19 of the Act**, ensuring the establishment of comprehensive rehabilitation services across the state.

Recognizing the diverse needs of PwDs, the SSIRPD adopts a multidimensional strategy, integrating rehabilitation, advocacy, skill development, and accessibility enhancement in a manner that is both sustainable and responsive to the socio-economic realities of Meghalaya. This is in consonance with **Sections 16, 19, and 20 of the RPwD Act, 2016**, which emphasize inclusive education, skill-building, and livelihood opportunities for PwDs. Furthermore, the society works in close coordination with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and grassroots stakeholders to ensure equitable access to resources and services, as envisaged under **Section 24 of the Act**.

With an unwavering commitment to inclusive governance, the SSIRPD upholds international disability rights frameworks, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), as reflected in the RPwD Act, 2016. Through innovative programs, policy advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives, the society seeks to transform Meghalaya into a model of accessibility, inclusivity, and social justice for PwDs.

As Meghalaya moves towards a future of universal accessibility and empowerment, the SSIRPD envisions a state where PwDs are active contributors to the socio-economic and cultural fabric of society, in alignment with **Sections 39 and 40 of the RPwD Act, 2016**, which emphasize barrier-free access and participation in public life.

The SSIRPD remains committed to ensuring that the vision of the RPwD Act, 2016, is fully realized in Meghalaya, strengthening its resolve to create an inclusive and equitable society where no person with disability is left behind.

A. Name and Address

a. Name: State Society for Implementation of Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities (SSIRPD)

b. Registered Office: Civil Hospital, Shillong, Meghalaya.

B. Aims and Objectives

The primary aims and objectives of the SSIRPD are as follows:

1. To implement effective rehabilitation services, disability-focused schemes, and programs across Meghalaya, as mandated in **section 27 of the Act**.
2. To ensure comprehensive service delivery, including medical, educational, vocational, and social rehabilitation, for PwDs.
3. To facilitate inter-departmental coordination between Health, Social Welfare, Education, Finance, Planning and other relevant departments for efficient program implementation.
4. To promote awareness about disability rights, inclusion, and empowerment within the community, to the general public, with a special focus on Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).
5. To establish mechanisms for early detection and intervention in cases of disabilities.
6. To extend rehabilitation services to rural areas through community-based approaches.
7. To oversee the distribution of assistive devices, scholarships, and other aids to PwDs.
8. To generate and utilize non-profit revenue and secure grants and aids from governmental and non-governmental sources.
9. To monitor and evaluate ongoing programs to ensure accountability and transparency.
10. To strengthen state functionaries in administering rehabilitation services for the people of Meghalaya.
11. To prevent overlap and duplication in the provision of rehabilitation services within the state.
12. To ensure the society functions in alignment with the administrative framework of the Government of Meghalaya, similar to other such societies.
13. Ultimately, to fulfil the societal and legal obligations for the effective implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act, 2016, within the state.

C. Membership

The society will be governed by a Governing Body responsible for policy formulation, monitoring, supervision, overall functioning, and addressing key issues.

The members of the Governing Body are as follows:

a. Categories of Members:**i. Chairman & Member Secretary of the Governing Body**

The Chairperson of the Committee is the Principal Secretary or Commissioner and Secretary, to the Government of Meghalaya, Social Welfare Department and the Member Secretary of the Committee is the Additional CEO, SSIRPD/Project Director and State Coordinator, SRCDA.

ii. Ex-Officio Members:

Sl. No.	Designation of the Official	Governing Body Member
1	Principal Secretary or Commissioner and Secretary, Social Welfare	Chairperson
2	Additional CEO, SSIRPD/ Project Director and State Coordinator, State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs, Shillong	Member Secretary
3	Chief Executive Officer, SSIRPD and Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities	Member
4	Director or Additional Director of Directorate of Social Welfare.	Member
5	Director of Health Services (MI)	Member
6	Additional or Joint Director of Health Services (SS), Civil Hospital, Shillong	Member
7	Nodal Officer, District Resource Centre on Disability Affairs (DRCDA)	Member
8	Senior Financial Advisor, Social Welfare Department.	Member
9	Finance and Accounts Officer, Social Welfare Department.	Member
10	Joint Secretary, Planning Department.	Member
11	Joint Secretary, Law Department.	Member
12	Senior/State Coordinator, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) & Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).	Member
13	Secretary, Finance Department.	Member
14	Planning Officer, State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs (SRCDA)	Member

iii. Nominated Members:

- a) Representatives from NGOs and institutions involved in disability services.
- b) Eminent persons with expertise in disability rights and rehabilitation.
- c) Persons with disabilities representing their communities.
- d) Representatives from other state government line departments, as recommended by the Chairperson.

b. Eligibility:

Membership is open to line departments, individuals and organizations actively contributing to the welfare of PwDs. Members must adhere to the objectives and principles of the SSIRPD.

c. Termination of Membership:

Membership may be terminated under the following conditions:

- i. Non-compliance with the bye-laws.
- ii. Misconduct or actions detrimental to the interests of the SSIRPD.
- iii. Voluntary resignation submitted in writing to the Governing Body.

D. Governing Body**a. Composition:**

The Governing Body shall consist of all *ex-officio* members and nominated members. The Chairperson or his nominee shall preside over its meetings.

b. Functions and Powers:

- i. Formulate policies and strategies to achieve the objectives of SSIRPD.
- ii. Approve annual budgets, programs, and action plans.
- iii. Oversee financial and operational performance.
- iv. Monitor the implementation of programs and initiatives.
- v. Address grievances and resolve disputes within the society.

c. Meetings:

- i. The Committee shall meet at least twice in a year and at such times as maybe decided by the Chairperson.
- ii. In cases where the Chairperson in his/her capacity cannot, due to circumstantial reasons, preside over these meetings, the Chief Executive Officer of the SSIRPD post approval by the Chairperson, may conduct the meetings and the decisions/confirmations of the meeting arising thereof, will be finalised based on the quorum/consensus of the members present. Emergency meetings may be convened with the consent of at least three members.
- iii. The Member Secretary shall issue notices of meetings as per directions of the Chairperson at least 14 days before the meeting indicating the date, venue and time of the meeting. The agenda to be discussed there shall be circulated at least 7 days prior to the date of the meeting. Decisions shall be made by majority vote.

d. Quorum

- i. One-third of the total members shall form the quorum.
- ii. Ordinarily for a collective vote on any specific agenda, the decisions shall be by consensus. However, the Chairperson may put a motion/resolution to vote.
- iii. All members shall have a right to vote and the Chairman will have a casting vote.

e. Special Meeting

Special/Emergency meetings maybe called by the Chairperson at his/her own or through a requisition from one-third of the total Committee members at any time deemed fit.

f. Amendment:

- i. A full member Governing Body meeting shall take up any changes or deletion of the clauses provided in this memorandum of the society and such a change will become effective only, if 70% of the members or a minimum of one-third of its members endorse the decision.
- ii. Such an amendment will be incorporated in the body memorandum and be circulated to all the members

g. Minutes

Not more than seven days after the conclusion of the meeting, the Member Secretary shall place the draft of the proceedings/minutes before the Chairperson for confirmation to initiate implementation and shall circulate the same to all members of the Governing Body. *Formal confirmation, however, will be done at the next regular meeting as the first item of the agenda. The second item on the agenda of all meetings shall be the review of implementation of decisions taken earlier.*

E. Sub-Committees

Where any authority of the Governing Body is given power to appoint Committees, such Committees shall, save as otherwise provided, consist of the members of the Governing Body concerned and of such other persons (if any) as the Governing Body in each case may think fit.

To enhance operational efficiency, the following sub-committees shall be constituted, **having the following members:**

a) Finance and Audit Committee:

Sl. No.	Designation of the official	Governing Body member
1	Chief Executive Officer, SSIRPD & Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.	Chairperson
2	Additional CEO, SSIRPD/Project Director and State Coordinator, State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs, Shillong.	Member Secretary
3	Senior Financial Advisor, Social Welfare Department.	Member
4	Finance and Accounts Officer, Social Welfare Department.	Member
5	Additional Director of Directorate of Social Welfare.	Member
6	Any other SSIRPD member, or ad hoc member as recommended by the Chairperson.	Member

Functions:

- i. Monitors financial transactions and ensures the presentation of the accounts to the Governing Body.
- ii. Conducts financial audits as and when required and presents reports to the Governing Body.

b) Program Implementation Committee:

Sl. No.	Designation of the official	Governing Body member
1	Chief Executive Officer, SSIRPD & Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities	Chairperson
2	Additional CEO, SSIRPD/Project Director and State Coordinator, State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs, Shillong	Member Secretary
3	Director of Health Services (MI)	Member
4	Nodal Officer, District Resource Centre on Disability Affairs (DRCDA)	Member
5	Senior/State Coordinator, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) & RMSA	Member
6	Any other SSIRPD member, or ad hoc member as recommended by the Chairperson	Member

Functions:

- i. Supervises and execute rehabilitation programs **only** for persons with benchmark disabilities (**40% or more**), namely programmes as below:
 - **Early Detection & Intervention** - Screening, diagnosis, and medical/surgical interventions.
 - **Family & Community Integration** - Training parents, guardians, and community members to support PwDs.
 - **Medical & Functional Rehabilitation** - Includes physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and assistive aids.
 - **Education & Vocational Training** - Special education, inclusive schools, skill development, and employment placement.
 - **Economic & Social Rehabilitation** - Livelihood opportunities, financial independence, and social integration.
 - **Government & Multi-Departmental Coordination** - Health, Education, Labour, Urban Affairs, Women & Child Development, Rural Development, and Panchayati Raj Departments to collaborate on disability programs.
 - **Dissemination of Information** - Awareness, public broadcasting, and accessibility of rehabilitation services.
 - **NGO & Community Participation** - Civil society and social organizations to assist in service delivery and empowerment of PwDs.
 - **Any other disability rehabilitation programme** aligning with the RPwD Act, 2016
- ii. Coordinates with district-level functionaries for seamless service delivery.

c) Awareness and Advocacy Committee:

Sl. No.	Designation of the official	Governing Body member
1	Chief Executive Officer, SSIRPD & Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities	Chairperson
2	Additional CEO, SSIRPD/Project Director and State Coordinator, State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs, Shillong	Member Secretary
3	Representative, Meghalaya State Legal Services Authority	Member
4	Nodal Officer, District Resource Centre on Disability Affairs (DRCDA)	Member
5	Additional Director of Directorate of Social Welfare	Member
6	Any other SSIRPD member, or ad hoc member as recommended by the Chairperson	Member

Functions:

- i. Plans and conducts campaigns, workshops, and training sessions.
- ii. Promotes disability rights and inclusion within the community.

F. Financial Management**a) Sources of Funds:**

- i. Government grants and allocations.
- ii. Revenue collected from the various services (Prosthetics 85 Orthotics, Clinical Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Audiology and other units) provided by DRCDA.

b) Account Management:

- i. A designated bank account shall be maintained by Treasurer or Head of Finance Division, SRCDA and operated jointly by the Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer and Member Secretary.
- ii. Monthly and annual financial reports shall be presented during Governing Body meetings.

c) Auditing:

- i. The accounts and expenditure of the society will be subjected to normal governmental auditing procedure. Auditing could be carried out yearly.
- ii. A unanimous request from any 3 members can ask for auditing if they wish so or call for records or inspection in the Governing Body.
- iii. Any recognized certified accounting firm approved by the governing body should also conduct such auditing Audit findings shall be shared with the Governing Body and relevant authorities.

G. Amendments to Bye-Laws

- a) Proposed amendments must be presented during a Governing Body meeting.
- b) A two-thirds majority vote is required for approval.
- c) Approved amendments shall be incorporated into the bye-laws and circulated to all members.

H. Dissolution

- a) The society, if under abnormal circumstances or otherwise, shall stand dissolved by the full members participating in the governing body meeting.
- b) The society may be dissolved upon a unanimous decision by the Governing Body.
- c) All assets shall be transferred/deposited to the Social Welfare Department, Government of Meghalaya for continued disability services.

I. Relaxation Clause**a) Power to Relax**

The **Governing Body** of the SSIRPD shall have the discretionary authority to relax the provisions of these Bye-Laws in exceptional and deserving cases, provided that such relaxation is in furtherance of the objectives of the SSIRPD and does not contravene any statutory provisions under the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016**, or any other applicable law.

b) Scope of Relaxation

The relaxation may be granted in matters including but not limited to:

- i. Eligibility criteria for beneficiaries, members of the Governing Body, or partner organizations;
- ii. Procedural requirements for applications, funding approvals, or program implementation;
- iii. Financial ceilings or limits prescribed under specific schemes, subject to availability of funds;
- iv. Timelines for compliance, reporting, or project execution, where justified by exigent circumstances.

c) Justification and Documentation

Any relaxation granted under this provision shall be:

- i. Considered on a case-to-case basis with due regard to equity, necessity, and programmatic objectives;
- ii. Accompanied by a written justification detailing the reasons for relaxation and its anticipated impact;
- iii. Approved through a resolution of the Governing Body and recorded in the official minutes of the meeting.

d) Limitations and Compliance

Notwithstanding the powers conferred under this Clause, no relaxation shall be granted that:

- i. Results in dilution of statutory entitlements or rights of persons with disabilities as provided under the **RPwD Act, 2016**;

- ii. Compromises financial prudence, governance standards, or accountability mechanisms;
- iii. Undermines the core principles of transparency, inclusivity, and equitable access to SSIRPD programs.

e) Periodic Review and Revocation

- i. All relaxations granted shall be subject to periodic review by the Governing Body to assess their continued necessity and effectiveness;
- ii. The Governing Body reserves the right to revoke, modify, or discontinue any relaxation if deemed necessary for the integrity and sustainability of the SSIRPD framework.

J. Miscellaneous Provisions

- a) The SSIRPD shall maintain detailed records of all meetings, programs, and financial transactions at the office of the State Resource Centre on Disability Affairs, Civil Hospital, Shillong.
- b) The society shall adhere to the Meghalaya Societies Registration Act, 1983, and applicable state laws.
- c) Any disputes within the society shall be resolved through mediation or mutual understanding by the Governing Body.