

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

AUTUMN SESSION

UNSTARRED

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Friday, August 30th, 2024.

Repairing of Internal Roads

Shri HEAVINGSTONE KHARPRAN

Shri PRESTONE TYNSONG
[Deputy Chief Minister in-charge
Public Works (Roads)]

46. Will the Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Public Works (Roads) be pleased to state the status of repairing of Internal Roads in the following villages :-

Sir, the status of repairing of Internal Roads in the following villages :-

i) Mawryngkneng?

i) Sir, the Government will look into the matter.

ii) Diengpasoh?

ii) Sir, the Government will look into the matter.

iii) Mawlynrei?

iii) Sir, the Government will look into the matter.

iv) Sohryngkham?

iv) Sir, the work for internal road was recently completed under the scheme **“Improvement including Metalling and Blacktopping of road from Upper Sohryngkham to Madan-Ap-Khaw (L=1.530 KM)” for an amount of ₹123.36 (L).**

Sir, regarding the balance portion, the Government will look into the matter.

v) Puriang?

v) Yes Sir, at present, the works for internal road at Puriang is being taken up under the scheme -

(a) **Improvement including Metalling and Blacktopping of internal roads at Puriang Kut Village (L=1.40 KM) amounting to ₹150.88(L).**

(b) **Improvement including Metalling and Blacktopping of road from NH-44 to Sung Valley (L=2.550 KM) amounting to ₹191.97(L).**

Construction of Fencing and Gallery

Shri HEAVINGSTONE KHARPRAN

**Shri SHAKLIAR WARJRI
(Minister in-charge Sports & Youth Affairs)**

47. Will the Minister in-charge Sports & Youth Affairs be pleased to state when will the Government sanction the following constructions :-

(i) The project for laying of Artificial turf, construction of fencing and covered gallery at Madan Apkhaw, Sohryngkham Lulong?

(ii) The construction of fencing and covered gallery at Sohryngkham Neng playground?

(iii) The construction of fencing at Mawdngong, Sohryngkham Mawdieja playground?

(iv) The construction of fencing and covered gallery at Thadlyndit, Sohryngkham Mawutieng playground?

(v) The construction of fencing, covered gallery, parking laying of Artificial turf at Mawryngkneng?

(i), (ii), (iii), (iv) & (v)

Sir, presently there is no proposal.

Activities of the Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri CONRAD K. SANGMA
(Chief Minister)**

48. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :-

(a) The various activities and working of the Department?

(a) & (b)

(b) The innovative plans that have or are being implemented by the Department?

Sir, is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

Staff Nurses in Sohiong Block

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Dr. M. AMPAREEN LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Health & Family Welfare)**

49. Will the Minister in-charge Health & Family Welfare be pleased to state :-

(a) The current sanctioned strength of Staff Nurses in the various health facilities types under Sohiong Block?

(a) Sir, facilities under Sohiong Block falls under Mawphlang Block.

(b) The total number of vacant sanctioned Staff Nurses posts that are still lying unfilled under Sohiong Block?

(b) Sir, 2 out of 9 posts are vacant.

(c) When will the Staff Nurses posts under Sohiong Block be advertised?

(c) Sir, the vacant post of Staff Nurse was advertised *vide* MMSRB letter No.HSM/MMSRB/Nursing/12/24/19 Dated 30.7.2024 is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

MBBS Doctors and Dentists

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Dr. M. AMPAREEN LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Health & Family
Welfare)**

50. Will the Minister in-charge Health & Family Welfare be pleased to state :-

(a) The current sanctioned strength of MBBS Doctors and Dentists in Meghalaya respectively?

(a) Sir, the current sanctioned strength of MBBS Doctors and Dentists in Meghalaya are :-

Name of posts	Current sanctioned strength
Senior grade and General duty doctors	671
Specialists	283
Floating post (Common to both streams)	125
Dentists	79

(b) The total number of vacant sanctioned MBBS Doctors and Dentists posts that are still lying unfilled respectively?

(b) Sir, the total number of vacant sanctioned MBBS Doctors and Dentists posts that are still lying unfilled are :-

Name of posts	No. of vacant sanctioned post (Grade III)
MBBS Doctors	20
Dentists	1
Total	21

(c) When will these vacant MBBS Doctors and Dentists posts be advertised?

(c) Sir, the Government will take steps to fill up the vacant posts at the earliest.

Meghalaya Urban Development Authority

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri SNIAWBHALANG DHAR
(Deputy Chief Minister in-charge
Urban Affairs)**

51. Will the Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Urban Affairs be pleased to state :-

(a) The total amount of revenue collected by Meghalaya Urban Development Authority during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 respectively?

(a) Sir, the total amount of revenue collected by Meghalaya Urban Development Authority during the years 2022-23 and 2024 are as follows :-

2021 - 2022	₹12,43,004.00
2022 - 2023	₹39,26,240.00
2023 - 2024	₹26,56,983.00
Total	₹78,26,227.00

(b) The total number of non functional STPS buses and Red Maxi Cabs that are lying in the godowns?

(b) Sir, the total number of non functional SPTS buses lying in the godowns are 66 Nos. where 53 Nos. will be auctioned and the remaining 13 Nos. are being kept for schools/colleges outside Shillong City for which the repair works for the same have to be borne by the concern schools/colleges.

The total No. of Red Maxi Cabs (SSPTS) that are lying in the godown is 3(three) numbers.

(c) When will they all be auctioned by the Auction Committee of the Department?

(c) Sir, the process to auction the SPTS buses is by the Auction Committee which has been completed and the tender for the same will be floated soon.

The SMB is in the process to get the non-functional Maxi Cabs evaluated by the DTO after which the report would be placed before the Condemnation Committee of the Department.

(d) The reason that after 10 years of Digital India that the Shillong Municipal Board does not have an online payment system thereby causing great inconvenience to the customers?

(d) Sir, online payment services have been partially implemented in the Shillong Municipal Board i.e., for payment of fees for business license, supply of water by tankers, registration of plumbers and water connection fee. The SMB also accepts digital payment through POS devices and UPI for all other payment.

(e) The plan for making digital payments fruition and when?

(e) Sir, efforts to bring in digital payments for all types of services of the SMB is in progress in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre. The SMB has also entered into an agreement with Axis Bank for using the "PayU Biz" payment gateway.

Administrative Officer in the DHS

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Dr. M. AMPAREEN LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Health & Family
Welfare)**

52. Will the Minister in-charge Health & Family Welfare be pleased to state :-

(a) When will the post of Administrative Officer at the DHS be filled up by an Under Secretary from Ministerial cadre with experience in administrative matters?

(a) Sir, the post of Administrative Officer has been filled up.

(b) The rules, regulations and justification that the Administrative Officer post is filled up by a Medical Officer in the rank of Deputy Director?

(b) Sir, as per Rule 6 (1) of the Meghalaya Directorate Establishment (Ministerial) Services (Amendment) Rule 2010, the Administrative Officer has to be appointed by promotion from amongst the Registrar of the Directorate who has served at least 2 (two) years as Registrar in the Directorate. However, the Registrar in the O/o the Directorate of Health Services (MI) had not fulfilled the required criteria, having joined the post Registrar only on 19th July, 2023. Therefore, Administrative decision was taken to post a Medical & Health Officer as the Administrative Officer in view of exigency.

(c) Whether the Government have plans to change this Administrative Officer post to a Deputy Director post?

(c) No, Sir.

(d) If the reply at (c) above is in the affirmative, the rules and procedure thereof?

(d) Sir, does not arise in view at (c) above.

National Highways in the State

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri PRESTONE TYNSONG
[Deputy Chief Minister in-charge
Public Works (Roads)]**

53. Will the Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Public Works (Roads) be pleased to state :-

(a) The National Highways that will be and are currently constructed/ under construction in the State?

(a) Sir, they are as follows :-

1. National Highway No.217.
2. National Highway No.127B.
3. National Highway No.6.
4. National Highway No.106.
5. National Highway No.206.

(b) The tentative months and years for them to be completed which includes the all-important Shillong-Dawki Road?

(b) Sir, is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The permissible official loads as per Central Government norms allowed for trucks especially dumpers to carry in Village roads, District roads and National Highways?

(c) Sir, the permissible official loads as allowed for trucks especially dumpers in National Highways are :-

- (a) 49 Tonnes for Rigid Vehicles.
- (b) 55 Tonnes for Trailers.

Problems of the Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri A. L. HEK
(Minister in-charge Printing and
Stationery)**

54. Will the Minister in-charge Printing & Stationery be pleased to state :-

(a) The reason that the documents and stationeries of all manifestations printed and supplied to all Government Establishments is very less every year and are never up to the demand?

(a) Sir, efforts are always made to ensure to fulfill the Annual Indents and any additional requirements beyond the primary indents, submitted by the Government Establishments every year.

(b) The problems incurred by the Department?

(b) Sir, shortfall of supply, if any, may be due to the facts below :-

(i) Due to distribution of the stationeries in phases.

(ii) Additional requirements raised by the Government Establishments would take time to fulfill.

(c) The steps being taken to overcome these incalculable problems?

(c) Sir, to avoid the probable dislocation of the functions in the Government Establishment due to short supply of stationery (if any), guidelines are in place for direct procurement of Printed Stationery and Stationery Articles by the Government Establishments.

Programmes of the Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri CONRAD K. SANGMA
(Chief Minister)**

55. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :-

(a) The programmes that have been successfully implemented during the last 6 years?

(a) Sir, GAD(B), Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Arts & Culture, Fisheries, Labour, Employment & Skill Development, Soil & Water Conservation, Border Areas Development, PHE, Revenue & Disaster Management, Information Technology & Communication, Finance (EA), Programme Implementaion & Evaluation, Mining & Geology, Forests & Environment, Tourism, Water Resources, Housing, C & RD, Social Welfare, Commerce & Industries, Personnel & A.R. (B), Education, Textiles, Office of Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

(b) The programmes that are currently being implemented?

(b) Sir, GAD(B), Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Arts & Culture, Fisheries, Labour, Employment & Skill Development, Soil & Water Conservation, Border Areas Development, PHE, Revenue & Disaster Management, Information Technology & Communication, Finance (EA), Programme Implementaion & Evaluation, Mining & Geology, Forests & Environment, Tourism, Water Resources, Housing, C & RD, Social Welfare, Commerce & Industries, Personnel & A.R. (B), Education, Textiles, Office of

Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The current and previous programmes that have been/being evaluated?

(c) Sir, GAD (B), Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Arts & Culture, Fisheries, Labour, Employment & Skill Development, Soil & Water Conservation, Border Areas Development, PHE, Revenue & Disaster Management, Information Technology & Communication, Finance (EA), Programme Implementation & Evaluation, Mining & Geology, Forests & Environment, Tourism, Water Resources, Housing, C & RD, Social Welfare, Commerce & Industries, Personnel & A.R. (B), Education, Textiles, Office of Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The name of the expert evaluation agency?

(d) Sir, GAD (B), Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Arts & Culture, Fisheries, Labour, Employment & Skill Development, Soil & Water Conservation, Border Areas Development, PHE, Revenue & Disaster Management, Information Technology & Communication, Finance (EA), Programme Implementation & Evaluation, Mining & Geology, Forests & Environment, Tourism, Water Resources, Housing, C & RD, Social Welfare, Commerce & Industries, Personnel & A.R. (B), Education, Textiles, Office of

Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District, Office of Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills District is as per Statement placed on the Table of the House.

Greater Shillong Water Supply Scheme-III

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri MARCUISE N. MARAK
(Minister in-charge Public Health
Engineering)**

56. Will the Minister in-charge Public Health Engineering be pleased to state :-

(a) The tentative month and year that the Greater Shillong Water Supply Scheme-III will be completed?

(a) Sir, the tentative month and year the Greater Shillong Water Supply Scheme (Phase – III) is expected to be completed in March, 2025.

(b) The innumerable reasons for its delay?

(b) Sir, reasons for delay in implementation of the Project are :

- Resource constraint.
- Inter-Departmental coordination issues.
- Delay in obtaining permission for laying of pipelines from PWD & NHIDCL.
- Delay in the work for laying of Distribution Networks due to objections from PWD.
- Delay in receipt of Forest Clearance.
- Delay in granting permission by the Ministry of Defence.
- Delay in granting NOC by the Hima Mawphlang for land required for construction of Stage II Pumping.

Sanctioned Posts in the Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri A. L. HEK
(Minister in-charge Secretariat
Administration)**

57. Will the Minister in-charge Secretariat Administration be pleased to state :-

(a) The total number of vacant sanctioned posts in details of all Grades lying vacant at the Secretariat?

(a) Sir,
(i) L.D. Assistant - 74.
(ii) Stenographers Grade III - 17.
(iii) Drivers - 7.

(b) When will they be filled up?

(b) Sir,
(i) & (ii) - The posts will be filled up on receipt of recommendation from MPSC.
(iii) The vacancy for the post of Driver will be advertised soon.

(c) The total number of Casual/ Contractual/Ad hoc workers respectively that are currently working there?

(c) Sir,
(i) Office Assistant-cum-Stenographers on Contractual Basis-19.
(ii) Receptionist on Contractual Basis-6.
(iii) Ad hoc Workers - Nil.

(d) Whether it is a protocol duly followed whereby files that have accumulated in the Secretariat rooms be transferred to stock rooms or condemned if need before decongestion?

(d) Sir, yes, protocol is followed as laid down under Chapter X of the Meghalaya Secretariat Manual of Office Procedures 1993.

Sericulture Weavers

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri PAUL LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Textiles)**

58. Will the Minister in-charge Textiles be pleased to state :-

(a) The total number of sericulture weavers that are present in the State?

(a) Sir,
i) The total Number of farmers in the State is 37482 nos.
ii) The total Number of weavers in the State is 25157 nos.

(b) The total amount of raw silk that is being exported by the State of Meghalaya for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24?

(b) Sir, the Department of Textiles does not export any silk products till date. Further this Department does not have any data regarding export of silk products by the Individual weavers and Entrepreneurs.

(c) The total amount of processed silk is being exported by the State of Meghalaya for the years 2022-2023 and 2023-24?

(c) Sir, as at (b) above.

(d) The steps taken by the Government for rendering help in silk exporting and silk marketing respectively?

(d) Sir, for marketing and promotion of silk products, the Department of Textiles has sale Outlet in the State and also through participation in various State, National and International Fairs/Textile Expos organized by different agencies. It also assists the Individual weavers and Entrepreneurs to display and market their silk products in these Fairs/Eri Corners/District Textiles showroom.

Major and Minor Projects

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri MARCUISE N. MARAK
(Minister in-charge, Soil & Water
Conservation)**

59. Will the Minister in-charge Soil & Water Conservation be pleased to state :-

(a) The various kinds of works that the Department does?

(a) Sir, the various kinds of works that the Soil & Water Conservation Department is taking up are as follows :

1. Watershed Development Works.
2. Soil & Water Conservation Works under RIDF-NABARD.
3. Minor Irrigation under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

(b) The total number of major and minor projects that have been completed by the Department for the past 14 years in Meghalaya?

(b) Sir, the total number of major projects that have been completed by the Soil & Water Conservation Department for the past 14 years are as follows :

1. Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) - Minor Irrigation - 32 Nos.
2. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC) - 61 Nos.

The total number of minor projects that have been completed by the Soil & Water Conservation Department for the past 14 years are as follows:

1. Soil & Water Conservation Schemes under NABARD-RIDF - 131 Nos

(c) The total number of major and minor projects that are currently being undertaken in the State and in Sohiong Constituency respectively?

(c) Sir, the total number of major projects that are currently being undertaken in the State are as follows :

- I. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC 2.0) - 32 Nos.

The total number of minor projects that are currently being undertaken in the State are as follows :

- I. Soil & Water Conservation Schemes under NABARD - RIDF-XXIX - 14 Nos.

The total number of major and minor projects that are currently being undertaken in Sohiong Constituency is 'NIL'.

(d) The awareness programmes that have been launched in the State for Soil & Water Conservation?

(d) Sir, the awareness programme for Soil and Water Conservation Works are undertaken as part of the scheme Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Watershed Development Component (PMKSY-WDC).

Works carried out by the Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri COMINGONE YMBON
(Minister in-charge Water
Resources)**

60. Will the Minister in-charge Water Resources be pleased to state :-

(a) The differences in the works carried out by the Department from the works carried out by the Soil and Water Conservation Department?

(a) Sir, works carried out by the Water Resources are :-

Implementation of Irrigation Projects consisting of Surface Flow Irrigation Schemes, Medium Irrigation Projects, Rejuvenation of Springs & Water Bodies

and Flood Control Works pertaining to Agricultural land. The Department has also been entrusted with responsibility of collection of hydro meteorological and ground water data for improving the extent, reliability and accessibility of Water Resources information in the State.

Soil and Water Conservation Department :-

Conservation of natural resources like soil, water and vegetation for sustained development combating land degradation through erosion, faulty agricultural practices like shifting cultivation or jhumming to preserve, maintain and improve balance in ecology and environment etc.

(b) The various types of projects carried by the Department which were completed during the year 2023 and 2024 and are being carried out in 2024?

(b) Sir, the various types of projects carried by the Department which were completed during the year 2023-24 are 20 nos. of PMKSY Projects, 2 nos. of Flow Irrigation under State Plan, 4 nos. of Water Harvesting Schemes, 54 nos. of Jalkunds, 8 nos. of Small Multi-purpose Reservoirs.

The Schemes that are being carried out in 2024 are 84 nos. of PMKSY Projects, 8 nos. of Flow Irrigation, 25 nos. of Water Harvesting Schemes, 4 nos. of Jalkunds, 9 nos. of Small Multi-purpose Reservoirs, 22 nos. of RIDF NABARD, 16 nos. of Rejuvenation of Springs, 57 Projects under Flood Control & Anti-erosion Works.

Disasters Recorded in Meghalaya

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri KYRMEN SHYLLA
(Minister in-charge Revenue &
Disaster Management)**

61. Will the Minister in-charge Revenue & Disaster Management be pleased to state :-

(a) The logical reasons that the word revenue is associated with the word 'disaster' in the Department?

(a) Sir, right from the inception of the State, Revenue Department has been entrusted with the task of granting of Relief, etc. as a result of Natural Calamity. In connection with Disaster Management and as practiced in other States of the country, the subject matter has been dealt with by Revenue Department as it is felt that it would be administratively convenient if these subjects are continued to be dealt with by Revenue Department, which is represented by the Deputy Commissioner in the Districts.

(b) Whether there are revenue(s) to be made from Disasters for clarification?

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The total number of disasters that were recorded in Meghalaya during the year 2023 & 2024?

(c) Sir, there are a total of 7 (seven) number of disasters recorded in Meghalaya during the year 2023 & 2024, they are - Cyclone, Fire, Flood, Hailstorm, Landslide, Pest Attack, Lightning Strike.

(d) Whether all the dues to be paid for destruction of property, lives lost and injured paid to the victims?

(d) Sir, financial assistance to the victims are partially paid.

(e) If the reply at (d) above is in the negative, the reasons thereof?

(e) Sir, funds has been released by the Revenue & Disaster Management Department to all the Deputy Commissioners, however, payment to the beneficiaries is still under process.

(f) The total number of awareness programmes that have been launched by the Department to prevent injuries and loss of life?

(f) Sir,

SDMA	294
East Khasi Hills	21
West Khasi Hills	60
Ri-Bhoi	8
South West Khasi Hills	9
Eastern West Khasi Hills	9
East Jaintia Hills	108
West Jaintia Hills	9
West Garo Hills	51
East Garo Hills	Nil.
South Garo Hills	Nil.
South West Garo Hills	8
North Garo Hills	Nil.

(g) If the reply at (d) above is in the negative, the reasons thereof?

(g) Sir, as at (e) above.

(h) Whether the victims afflicted by natural disasters have been paid in full till 2023 under Sohiong Constituency?

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) The name of the Departments in which the loss of lives and property from natural disasters is being mitigated?

(i) Sir, Revenue & Disaster Management Department.

POCSO Cases

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri PAUL LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Social Welfare)**

62. Will the Minister in-charge Social Welfare be pleased to state :-

(a) The total number of POCSO cases that are pending?

(a) Sir, there is a Total of 1747 (**One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Seven**) POCSO Cases pending in the various Districts of Meghalaya. Since inception upto June 2024.

(b) The various reasons for their pendency?

(b) Sir,

1. There are six (6) POCSO Special Courts in the State which are exclusively handling POCSO cases viz, Two (2) in East Khasi Hills, 1(one) in West Khasi Hills, 1(one) in West Jaintia Hills, 1(one) in Ri-Bhoi and 1(one) in West Garo Hills.
2. Judicial Magistrates are also handling other Court cases apart from the POCSO cases in their respective District Courts.
3. Cancellation of hearings due to non appearance by accused/survivors/ witness causes delay in completion of the trial.
4. Non appearance by parties concerned due to various factors like sickness, exams and other factors only prolongs the trial.
5. Due diligence by the Courts in ensuring fair trials to all parties concerned.

(c) The total number of POCSO cases that have been resolved and closed?

(c) Sir, the total number of POCSO Cases resolved and closed till June 2024 are 894 (**Eight Hundred and Ninety-Four**) cases.

(d) The functions of the Juvenile Justice Board?

(d) Sir, Section 8 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 provides for the Powers, functions and responsibilities of the Board which are as follows :-

- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force but save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, the Board constituted for any district shall have the power to deal exclusively with all the proceedings under this Act, relating to children in conflict with law, in the area of jurisdiction of such Board.
- (2) The powers conferred on the Board by or under this Act may also be exercised by the High Court and the Children's Court, when the proceedings come before them under section 19 or in appeal, revision or otherwise.
- (3) The functions and responsibilities of the Board shall include -
 - (a) ensuring the informed participation of the child and the parent or guardian, in every step of the process;
 - (b) ensuring that the child's rights are protected throughout the process of apprehending the child, inquiry, aftercare and rehabilitation;
 - (c) ensuring availability of legal aid for the child through the legal services institutions;
 - (d) wherever necessary the Board shall provide an interpreter or translator, having such qualifications, experience, and on payment of such fees as may be prescribed, to the child if he fails to understand the language used in the proceedings;
 - (e) directing the Probation Officer, or in case a Probation Officer is not available to the Child Welfare Officer or a social worker, to undertake a social investigation into the case and submit a social investigation report within a period of fifteen days from the date of first production before the Board to ascertain the circumstances in which the alleged offence was committed;

- (f) adjudicate and dispose of cases of children in conflict with law in accordance with the process of inquiry specified in Section 14;
- (g) transferring to the Committee, matters concerning the child alleged to be in conflict with law, stated to be in need of care and protection at any stage, thereby recognising that a child in conflict with law can also be a child in need of care simultaneously and there is a need for the Committee and the Board to be both involved;
- (h) disposing of the matter and passing a final order that includes an individual care plan for the child's rehabilitation, including follow up by the Probation Officer or the District Child Protection Unit or a member of a non-governmental organisation, as may be required;
- (i) conducting inquiry for declaring fit persons regarding care of children in conflict with law;
- (j) conducting at least one inspection visit every month of residential facilities for children in conflict with law and recommend action for improvement in quality of services to the District Child Protection Unit and the State Government;
- (k) order the police for registration of first information report for offences committed against any child in conflict with law, under this Act or any other law for the time being in force, on a complaint made in this regard;
- (l) order the police for registration of first information report for offences committed against any child in need of care and protection, under this Act or any other law for the time being in force, on a written complaint by a Committee in this regard;
- (m) conducting regular inspection of jails meant for adults to check if any child is lodged in such jails and take immediate measures for transfer of [that child to an observation home or place of safety, as the case may be]; and
- (n) any other function as may be prescribed.

(e) The total number of cases that are pending with the Juvenile Justice Board?

(e) Sir, there are 280 cases pending before the Juvenile Justice Boards as on Quarter ending June, 2024. With effect from April 2024 to June 2024.

(f) The various reasons for their pendency?in Meghalaya and in Sohiong Constituency respectively?

(f) Sir,

1. The rising number of cases involving offences committed by children in conflict with law often overwhelms the existing systems. The spike in cases can lead to backlogs as the JJBs struggle to manage the increased workload in a timely manner.

2. The procedural framework surrounding cases related to CCLs often leads to delays. Legal requirements and frequent adjournments can prolong the legal process. The frequent need for psychological assessments and social investigations can also contribute to delays.

3. There are 3(three) Observation Homes in the State which look after Children in conflict with law viz, 1(one) Observation Home, Boys, 1(one) Observation Home, Girls in East Khasi Hills and 1(one) Observation Home Boys in West Garo Hills. The Principal Magistrates and JJB members from other districts have to travel to these observation homes for production and hearing, which poses a challenge to conduct regular hearings and disposal of cases.

4. The Principal Magistrate does not handle cases related only to Children in conflict with law but also deal with other cases in the District Court.

(g) The total number of cases that are pending with the State Commission for Women?

(g) Sir, NIL.

(h) The total number of crimes against women that have been closed and resolved?

(h) Sir,

1. Total number of crimes against women that have been resolved in the last five years w.e.f 2020-2024 till date is 91 cases.

2020-2021	:	18
2021-2022	:	19
2022-23	:	25
2023-24	:	20
2024 till date	:	9

2. Cases at the Commission are not closed but open-ended and re-examined as and when the need arises.

(i) The total number of members at present in the State Commission for Women?

(i) Sir, the total number of Members at present in the Meghalaya State Commission for Women is 8(eight) as below :-

Chairperson	-	1
Vice-Chairperson	-	1
Member	-	4
Co-opted Member	-	1
Member Secretary	-	1

(j) Whether the current tenure of the current chairperson of the State Commission for Women be extended considering the pendency in the number of cases?

(j) Sir, does not arise. However the current tenure of the current Chairperson is for 3 (three) years w.e.f 1st July, 2024.

(k) The total number of awareness programmes that have been launched by the State Commission for Women in the 12 (twelve) District Headquarters, 12 Civil Sub Divisions and 55 Blocks?

(k) Sir, total number of awareness programmes conducted for the last 6 (six) years is **49** number

District Headquarter	:	28
Civil Sub-Division	:	7
Block	:	14

(l) Whether the State Commission for Women converge with ICDS CDPOs, L.S. and Health Awareness field staffers to expand the awareness programmes?

(l) Sir, the Commission mainly collaborated with the Office of the District Social Welfare Officer in organising various programmes. However, the Commission is coordinating with ICDS/ ICPS Sector under Social Welfare also with Health Department and Police in expanding the awareness Programmes from time to time.

(m) The total number of main AWCs and mini AWCs that are present

(m) Sir, total number of main AWCs in Meghalaya - 6162.

Total number of mini AWCs in Meghalaya - 0.

Total number of main AWCs in Sohiong Constituency - 151.

Total number of mini AWCs in Sohiong Constituency - 0.

Meghalaya Tourism

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri PAUL LYNGDOH
(Minister in-charge Tourism)**

63. Will the Minister in-charge Tourism be pleased to state :-

(a) The total number of tourists that came to Meghalaya during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 so far?

(a) Sir,

Year	Total
2022	1024864
2023	1422647
2024 (Jan-Jun)	704107

*2024 are provisional figures as data is still being collected.

(b) The total number of high-end tourists that came to Meghalaya during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 so far?

(b) Sir, as at (a) above.

(c) The total amount of revenue collected by the Government from tourist inflows during the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 so far?

(c) Sir, the Department of Tourism does not collect revenue from tourist inflow.

(d) The internationally accepted methodology being used to calculate tourist inflow?

(d) Sir, the Methodology being used to calculate tourist inflow by the State is as prescribed by the Ministry of Tourism Government of India.

(e) The method in which the Government collected revenue from tourist inflows?

(e) Sir, the Department of Tourism does not collect direct revenue from tourist inflow. Revenue is from GST collected by hotels.

(f) The name of festivals that have taken place during the year 2023 and 2024?

(f) Sir, the name of festivals that have taken place during 2023

Name of Festival	Venue
Winter (Tyisim) Festival Baghmara 2023	Baghmara
Simsang Festival 2023	Williamnagar
Hills Festival 2023	Umiam
Riwar Mihngi Festival 2023	Pynursla
Shillong Wine Festival 2023	Shillong
Na Thymmei Festival 2023 & 124 th Anniversary of Sengkut Snem	Shillong
Odyssey Gaming Festival	Shillong
Muka Annual Fiesta	Jowai
Jaintia Hills Festival 2023	Jowai
Shad Suk Mynsiem Festival	Shillong
Behdienkhlam Festival, Ialong 2023	Ialong
Behdienkhlam, Mukhla 2023	Mukhla
Behdienkhlam, Tuber 2023	Tuber
Behdienkhlam Ummulong 2023	Ummulong
The Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival 2023	Bhoirymbong, Ri-Bhoi District
The Shillong Literary Festival 2023	Ward's Lake Shillong
The Me.Gong Festival 2023	Jengjal, West Garo Hills
The Winter Tales Festival 2023	Ward's Lake Shillong

The name of festivals that have taken place during 2024

Name of Festival	Venue
Nul Ding Kut Festival 2024	Saipung

(g) The total revenue collected by the Government from each of these festivals in detail, per festival with the name of that festival sidewise?

(g) Sir, the Department of Tourism does not collect revenue from festivals but only support them.

Upgradation of Umroi Airport to a National Airport

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri SNIAWBHALANG DHAR
(Deputy Chief Minister in-charge
Transport)**

64. Will the Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Transport be pleased to state:-

(a) Whether Umroi Airport will be upgraded to a National Airport with land acquisition?

(a) Yes, Sir, the Government is exploring the feasibility to expand Umroi Airport to facilitate the landing of big aircraft.

(b) The air companies that are currently running from Umroi Airport, and to which destinations?

(b) Sir, the air companies that are currently operating are Indigo, Spice Jet and M/s Air Alliance. Flight are being operated from Shillong to Delhi, Kolkatta, Imphal, Agartala, Lilabar, Aizawl, Dimapur, Guwahati, Silchar, Dibrugarh.

(c) Whether there are any efforts by the State Government to set up a National Airport in Khasi Hills?

(c) No, Sir, presently the Government has not taken any steps for setting up a National Airport in Khasi Hills.

(d) The total number of permanent staffers of all grades that are employed by the Transport Department?

(d) Sir, 290 Nos.

i. Commissioner of Transport :-

Grade - II	= 2
Grade - III	= 135
Grade - IV	= 54
<u>Total</u>	<u>= 191 Nos.</u>

ii. Meghalaya Transport Corporation :-

Grade - I	= 3
Grade - II	= 37
Grade - III	= 56
Grade - IV	= 3
<u>Total</u>	<u>= 99 Nos</u>

- (e) The total number of non permanent staffers that are employed by the Transport Department? (e) Sir, 144 Nos.
- i. Commissioner of Transport**
- 36 Nos.
- ii. Meghalaya Transport Corporation**
- 108 Nos.
- (f) The total number of non functional MTC buses that are lying in the godowns? (f) Sir, 3 Nos.
- (g) When will they all be auctioned by the Auction Committee of the Department? (g) Sir, under process by Auction Committee.
- (h) Whether there is a need to have dalals present at certain DTOs at the District Headquarters? (h) No, Sir.

Functions of the Sport Department

**Shri SYNSHAR KUPAR ROY
LYNGDOH THABAH**

**Shri SHAKLIAR WARJRI
(Minister in-charge Sports & Youth
Affairs)**

65. Will the Minister in-charge Sports & Youth Affairs be pleased to state :-

- (a) Whether Sports Stadiums are maintained every year? (a) Sir, all Stadium are maintained by respective clubs/agencies/associations etc., or the State Sports Council of Meghalaya.
- (b) Whether all the 12 Districts have sports Stadiums? (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) The total amount of money that is provided to gold, silver and bronze winner at the National and International Championships respectively? (c) Yes, Sir, all money provided to winners is provided under the State Cash Awards and Scholarship Schemes. The amounts are governed by the scheme documents (Attached as Annexure).
- (d) When sportsperson travel to other States or Foreign Countries whether the Department provide uniforms, payment for travelling expenses and decent living conditions to stay at? (d) Yes, Sir, the Directorate routinely provides full/partial funding to associations and athletes competing at State and National Level on request.

- (e) The total number of Sports Associations that are affiliated or registered with Sports Department?
- (e) Sir, a total number of 46 (Forty Six) State Sports Associations are either affiliated directly with Meghalaya State Olympic Association or registered under Registration of Societies.
- (f) Whether they get financial assistance?
- (f) Yes, Sir.
- (g) The function of these Associations in promoting sports in calendar year in their respective Districts?
- (g) Sir,
1. Imparting coaching/training to athletes of their respective sports.
 2. Conduct of district level competitions/tournaments.
 3. Selection of players for representing their District for State level competitions.
- (h) Whether former and current sports players who had brought International laurels are provided with a monthly pension of at least ₹1.000 per month?
- (h) Sir, Pensions for athletes are mentioned in the State Sports Policy. The Scheme and mechanisms for the same are to be notified.
- (i) The activities undertaken by the State Olympic Committee to promote sports in all 12 District Headquarters?
- (i) Sir, the State Olympic Council for Meghalaya is the Meghalaya State Olympic Association. The activities undertaken by the Association to promote sports in the districts include :
- 1) Supporting and Overseeing of all State Sports Associations/ District Sports Associations' Activities.
 - 2) Undertaking Administrative and liaison duties for the State on behalf of the Indian Olympic Association.

- 3) Hosting of the Meghalaya Games in coordination with the Department.
- 4) Support of the Talent Identification Program, Elite Pathway Program and Super Elite Program under the Department's STAR Program.
- 5) Leading the Sohra International Half Marathon with the Meghalaya Athletic Association, supported by the Department.