

CHAPTER XVIII

Section 4(i)(b)(xvii)

Other useful information

The Soil & Water Conservation Department, Meghalaya originated as the *Jhum* Control Wing under the Forest Department in the erstwhile composite State of Assam. It was subsequently created as an independent Department during 1959-60.

As a major Department of the State, the Department has been striving towards the conservation of the three most vital natural resources - soil, water and vegetation by implementing various conservation measures under various schemes and projects funded by the Government and different agencies.

The Department has a Directorate, located at the 4th Secretariat (Administrative Building), Lachauriere, Shillong with the Director as its Head.

At present there are 17 (seventeen) Divisions under the Department;

1. Territorial Divisions – 11
2. Plantation Crops Divisions - 3
3. Soil Survey Division – 1
4. Project Formulation Cell Division – 1
5. Engineering Division – 1

The Conservation Training Institute located at Byrnihat, Ri Bhoi District is an institute which provides long term and short term training courses for the Officers and staff of the Soil and Water Conservation Department, in forestry and other allied subjects. It also conducts training for Officers and staff from the other Northeastern States.