

Newsletter

First edition of Kohima Municipal Council

Kohima is a picturesque City in the North-Eastern border. Kohima district was established in 1881 as a sub-division of formerly Naga Hills District within Assam. Nagaland became a fully fledged State on 1st December 1963, with Kohima as the State Capital.

***History/Olden times:** Kohima Town Council (KTC) came into existence in 1957, initiated by concern citizens of Kohima for better service provision to citizens of Kohima Shri. Yusuf Ali, IFAS who was the then Deputy Commissioner of Kohima was the first ex-officio Chairman of KTC, with **Lt. Dr. Neilhouzhu Kire** as its first Vice-Chairman from July 1957 till May 1967. With humble beginning of KTC where we had only 8 wards now it has grown to 19 wards. In the first representative body of KTC there was provision of 8 elected members and 4 Government nominees to oversee functioning of KTC. On 19th August 1982, a fully fledged Chairperson was elected by the elected members of the wards of KTC and **Late Joseph Jasokie** became first elected Chairman of KTC.*

Present Status/ position:

In 2005, the first Municipality was constituted under the provision of the Nagaland Municipal Act, 2001 and subsequently elections took place in the month December 2004 for all 19 wards under KMC jurisdiction. Besides inheriting the responsibilities & functions of the erstwhile KTC the present KMC is accorded with more & more responsibilities, that includes managing the affairs mentioned in the 12 schedules, as mentioned in the Indian Constitution. This transformation was necessary as our town grew in size and population. Challenges and demands of citizen for better Civic Governance has to catch-up with improvement in services and constantly changing need of urban citizens in Kohima City.

As we are aware, the Kohima Municipality is in its nascent and yet to be a full fledged Municipality. The concept of municipalities is new to our people due to our traditional Naga institutions of Governance, eg Gram Panchayats and other tribe based social institutions. We are in a transition stage and we expect each and every citizen to co-operate and contribute towards bringing better changes in our State Capital.

To improve service delivery to citizens of Kohima, presently KMC is working with an Institutional Development Consultant (IDC) PRUDA from Ahmadabad, under SIPMIU for over all reforms & restructuring of the KMC office & staff & for better management of services rendered by KMC as collection of waste just to name one of services.

*This has already started about two & half year ago.KMC is also preparing to switch over to double entry accounting with the assistance of IDC. The draft copy of **KMC Accounting Manual** is already put up to the State Government for approval and moreover **Opening Balance Sheet** of KMC accounts is completed. The main aims & objectives in launching of KMC website, is to coordinate / facilitate for the general public to get information's about, Trade license, Residential Certificate, Birth & Death Certificate, Hiring of Public Utility Services, Rates etc & above all Public Grievances Cell, which will be given a top priority.*

Initiative of KMC/Ongoing activities

Waste Collection: *Presently Kohima City is generating about 60-70 metric tons of waste per day and with limited machineries & Manpower, KMC is operating only with 7 garbage Trucks & 119 labours. KMC do street sweeping in all major roads of our city with 3 Sanitary Inspectors & 3 supervisors & 14 drivers for utility services & garbage trucks.*

Market Initiatives:

Besides regular checking of prices in the market, KMC has made initiatives for compulsory use of digital weighing machines. Construction of KMC market shed primarily for local streets vendors is in the pipeline. As of now,5 (five) evening market sites are being provided to them within the city.

Kohima Demo-Project:

The first major Project & Awareness Kick –off was started in 2006 with a Demo-Project on Solid Waste Management (SWM) in collaboration with Nagaland Pollution Control Board (NPCB) & sponsored by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) with a total amount of Rs.1.35 crore. Under this Demo Project, KMC has purchased 2 Mini-Tipper Trucks, One JCB,2 Tata Mobile for Bio-Medical Waste, Push Carts for Rag Pickers, Pamphlets & documentation , Sanitary Equipments & Free distribution of about 18,000 bins of both 5 & 100 litres to colonies, schools, colleges, Govt. Offices & other institute for creating awareness of Non Bio-Degradable (Recyclable waste) (Blue bins) & Bio-

Degradable (Green Bins). Under this Demo- Project, KMC has set up a mini-landfill at Viyakhukie above Phek road (16 kms) from Kohima.

Vermin compost plant started on 1st April 2013.(Organic Composting of Vegetable or Green Waste) have already started functioning along with Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Plant & is trying to generate power & cob bar gas for domestic fuel. This Project objective is to create awareness in maintaining better waste management at primary household levels and to experiment other ways & means of Recycling Waste to Wealth.

Bio-Medical Waste was launched on 1st April 2011 at Naga Hospital Kohima (NHK). KMC is already working out to install Incinerator for treatment of medical waste in scientific ways, but at present medical waste are managed through burning in an improvised brick chimney & deep burial system. This is important because mixing of Bio Medical & domestic waste can create major health hazards for both man & animals.KMC is collecting Bio-Medical waste from all Hospitals, Clinics & Nursing Homes on payment basis (Rs.700/- per trip) on alternative days.KMC has instructed all health institute to dispose Bio-Medical wastes in prescribed plastic bags for safety measures. At present there are 22 Clinics,6 Nursing Home & 1 Hospital i.e. 29 and frequency of collections is 4 trips per week.

First City to Decentralized Waste Management by Community:

KMC has Decentralized 10 wards on 2nd August 2011 & the remaining 9 wards on 27th Nov'2013. These wards have its own Sanitation Ward Committees to monitor/regulate the waste collections.KMC has provided 19 Mahindra Pick-up vehicles to each wards funded through DPDB, Kohima & Urban Development Department, Govt. of Nagaland and have empowered these Ward Committees to collect Sanitation Fee of Rs.50 per household as service & maintenance fee.

Decentralized wards have also been declared as community dust-bin free zones, where all existing community bins have been removed/dismantled. The first ward to declare dust-bin free zone on experimental basis was Naga Bazaar ward in 2005 and found to be practical & successful, one main factor was the waste has reduce in volume after community bins were removed. In the same manner, by decentralizing all 19 wards in our city, the policy of Re-cycle, Re-duce & Re-used was seen in reality.

Kohima is also one of the first Municipalities in our country to decentralize about 60% of its waste collection through community participation.

Awareness Month : KMC has declared the month of May every year as “Solid Waste Management Awareness Month, since 2010 and accordingly KMC has organized activities like- Mass Social works, Awareness/ Seminars in wards/colonies/schools and the general public’s etc, Basing on this, in 2013 KMC have distributed pamphlets on “Menace & Dangers of Plastic bags”, distributed to general Public, Churches, Colleges, Schools and to the Traders etc. Since Plastics turn out to be one of a major problem in management of waste and use of plastics in various way have become part & partial of our daily life activities , moreover banning of plastic bags was not very successful, KMC came out with an alternative policy to Re-duce, Re-used & Re-cycle i.e. through a circular /press release, have notified that w.e.f 1st June 2013, Plastic carry bags with less than 40 microns will be totally banned for all domestic uses in our city.KMC Inspectors have already started checking & seizing unauthorized plastics less than 40 microns from time to time. KMC appeals to all citizens to used cloth or other bio-degradable bags and all plastics bags of 40 microns & above will be charged from the bill/on payment by Shop owners. KMC in collaboration has taken special initiatives with local NGOs institution for Awareness Creation on cleanliness & sanitation in the city. Joint collaboration efforts are on with the NBCC,KABA-CARE, Project 72 hours, AGOK, AMK & State Social Welfare Board etc.

Award for Best Inter-ward Competition organized by KMC every year : This award was constituted in 2011 in order to encourage the wards & the general public for creating awareness & better management of waste at the household levels and it was found to be very encouraging & successful. Through this drive, many colonies have regulated rules & guidelines in disposing & management of their respective colonies waste and also many places have been beautified by planting flowers etc. Each year this award is conducted since 2011, with running trophies /certificates and cash awards to the best 3 wards.(Rs.50,000/- ,Rs.30,000/- & Rs.20,000/-) respectively.

Organic Culture introduce on 1st May 2013 at KMC Dumping Site

KMC have introduced spraying of organic culture with Mysore Firm-Jalavahini Management Services (JMS) Biotech Mysore. This is to reduce the menace of flies & odour/smell and also for fast disintegration of the degradable wastes. It also kills all sort of insects/maggots and stops breeding of insects once this organic culture is applied. This has drastically reduced flies & odour to a great extends and found to be very effective in management of the present unscientific land fill in our city.

Scientific Land Fill at Lirie:

Under the sponsorship of Asian Development Bank (ADB) a mega project is under way at Lirie for Waste Management. This is under the supervision of State Investment Program Management & Implementation Unit (SIPMIU) with a project cost of about Rs. 40 crore. Here the wastes will be scientifically monitored by Segregating Waste, Sewerage Treatment, Air Monitoring and other health hazard etc will be done. The Land fill life is for 25 years as per the DPR. If we can all Re-duce, Re-use, Re-cycle & segregate our waste from household levels we can prolong the landfill life, but if we fail in our part our landfill life will be reduced and the huge investments made will go in vain. The Project is expected to be commissioned by December 2015.

***New & Renewal Energy (NRE):** KMC in collaboration with the State NRE agencies is closely monitoring all possible avenues to create awareness. KMC have already notified to all traders & households within its jurisdiction to switch over to CLF bulbs and in line with this in 2010, KMC along with State Power Department have also distributed some CLF bulbs at subsidized rates to the general public. Under this conventional energy policy some street lights have been installed by Solar Street light in our city.*

New Project & Vision of KMC:

a. The KMC is also trying to bring out one Incinerator Project for the treatment of all Bio-Medical Wastes of Kohima & nearby areas through Ministry of Forest & Environment and One Crematorium through CPCB both under the state nodal agency NPCB.

b. The KMC along with SIPMIU have started working out to go for intensive ward sensitization for segregation, primary collection & waste management at household level since June 2014. First round of sensitization is almost over. Under its SWM awareness month (May) KMC will further be organizing a 'Mass Flexi-Banner Campaign' in public places with the help of SIPMIU, where some permanent awareness boards on SWM, Water Conservation, Power & General environment issues will be displayed.

c. KMC is trying its best to gear up to tackle the waste menace of the Kohima City by 2020.

d. KMC along with SIPMIU is also doing an exercise for House mapping and other data collections for water, electricity, number of households, educational & health facilities in all the respective wards under KMC jurisdiction for future Urban Planning and also for providing better Utility Services by both State Govt. & ULBs.

e. Under SIPMIU, funded under ADB Project, two new project is under progress for the capital city i.e. One Septage Management Plant for septic tank products to be treated scientifically and producing manure with the end

products at Dzuruzou and one Re-Cycle Unit for all recyclable waste at Lirie Landfill.

The KMC would like to appeal to all its citizens to cooperate and help KMC for better management of our Waste and to be an ambassador in propagating “Waste Free City”

Let’s all joint hands in fighting this “Waste Menace” on a war footing & “Be the change to see the chance”.

Kohima Municipal Council.