

Meghalaya Single Window Agency approves 13 proposals to create Jobs

Meghalaya Chief Minister Mukul Sangma who headed the Single Window Agency on Friday approved 13 proposals for investment in five districts and directed preparation of 'model projects' for job creation.

"We have approved a total of 13 out of 15 investment proposals," Chief Minister Mukul Sangma told reporters after the 54th meeting of the Single Window Agency (SWA) here.

Of the 15 projects that came up for discussion, two investment proposals, a backyard poultry farming/egg production and setting up of an amusement park in Ri Bhoi district have been kept in abeyance, he said. The egg factory, which aimed to produce 1.81 crore eggs in a year requires over 50 acre of land and the animal husbandry and Veterinary department has been asked to study the impact of the proposal before giving the approval, he said.

The proposal for setting up of an amusement park at the Assam-Meghalaya border at Khanapara, the investor was asked to comply with the state industrial policy, which requires a local person to be part of the team of investors.

The Chief Minister said Ri-Bhoi district, which got eight proposals, remained one of the preferred destinations for investment.

In view of the discouraging figures in the remaining parts of the state, the Chief Minister directed the Department of Commerce and Industries to create an "enable environment" to encourage potential investors to look at industrial investment as a diverse opportunity starting from micro, small and medium to large scale industries.

Mukul said the department was also directed to assign the Meghalaya Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) for preparing model projects of different scales, which would not only identify priority sector, but also help generating employment avenues.

The sectors proposed to be brought under the model projects include food processing, manufacturing, renewable energy, hospitality and others. According to the Chief Minister, the government would also provide assistance by ensuring simpler credit flow for local entrepreneurs to invest in these sectors.