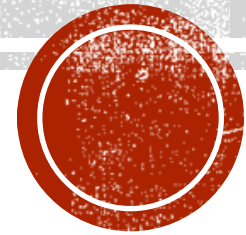


# RTI PRESENTATION



# HEALTH DEPT. TO CAP COVID TREATMENT COST

SHILLONG, July 19: The cost of COVID-19 treatment in private hospitals in the state will be regulated with the Health department all set to issue an official notification on Tuesday putting a cap on the cost of treatment.

An official source said on Monday that the government has decided to put a cap on the cost of COVID-19 treatment after holding consultations with representatives of private hospitals recently.

It may be recalled that the state government had constituted a consultative committee to look into concerns raised by citizens on exorbitant billing for COVID-19 treatment in the private hospitals. The committee comprises officials of the Health Department and representatives of government and private hospitals.

There have been allegations that patients have paid between Rs 2 lakh and Rs 3.50 lakh for COVID-19 treatment in the private hospitals.



- **Please read the attached news report published in Shillong Times on 19/07/2021. Please imagine that an RTI application will come to you at the end of August based on this news report.**
- 
- **RTI application filed by a resident of Shillong on 30 August 2021:**



1. What is the current rate for treatment of Covid in Government Hospitals?

Ans: Yes

Reason: This information is readily available. For instance, the cost of RT-PCR tests and the costs of a COVID bed is available on the the COVID website of Meghalaya.

Day 1  
30/08/2021  
RTI Application filed



Day 30  
28/09/2021  
Disposal of RTI

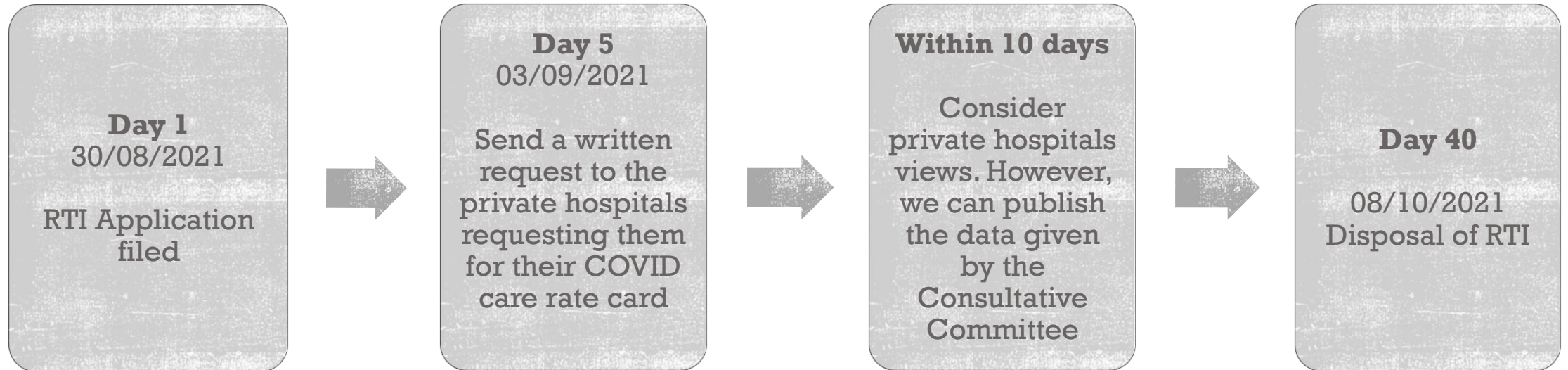


2. How much are the top 5 private hospitals (Woodland, Supercare, Nazareth, Bethany and Hope Clinic) in Shillong charging for Covid treatment?

Ans: Yes

Reason: Allegations were made in the newspaper about the high costs of COVID care

During the process of review by the Consultative Committee, such costs came to light as well.



3. Has there been any inspections from the health department for keeping a check on exorbitant hospital fees for Covid treatment? If yes, a report of the inspections is required.

Ans: Yes

Reason: The Consultative Committee Report is available

Day 1  
30/08/2021  
RTI Application filed



Day 30  
28/09/2021  
Disposal of RTI



4. How did the Health Department cap the amount of Rs2 lakh – Rs3.5 lakh?  
Supporting Documents are required

Ans: Yes.

Reason: The government is the main procurement agency in a pandemic such as COVID and hence, it is well aware of the true costs of products like PPE kits, medicines, etc. Other economic factors like incentives for the hospitals to continue providing excellent service has also been taken into consideration.

Day 1  
30/08/2021  
RTI Application filed



Day 30  
28/09/2021  
Disposal of RTI



5. The official notification for capping of hospital rates for Covid treatment

Ans: Yes by notification

Day 1  
30/08/2021  
RTI Application filed



Day 30  
28/09/2021  
Disposal of RTI





6. Has there been any official complaints by citizens to the Government regarding the cost of Covid treatment?

Ans: Yes

Day 1  
30/08/2021  
RTI Application filed



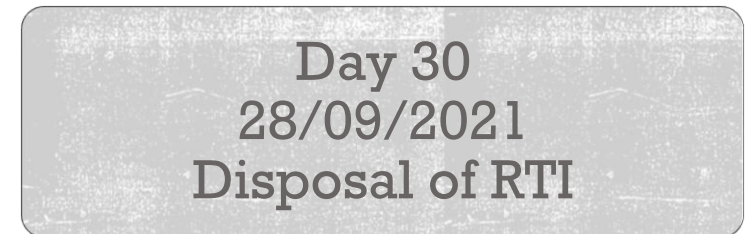
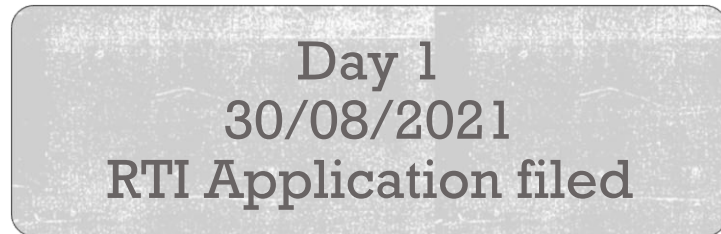
Day 30  
28/09/2021  
Disposal of RTI



7. Minutes of the meeting on capping of hospital rates for Covid treatment.

Ans: Yes

Minutes on the decisions taken and all the economic factors taken into consideration is readily available online.



▪ **RTI Matter/ Time Bound**

▪ **Government of Meghalaya  
Department of Health and Family Welfare  
Shillong**

▪ **28 September 2021**

▪ **To**

▪ **Resident of Shillong**

▪

▪ **Subject: RTI Application filed by a resident of Shillong on 30 August 2021**

▪ **Madam,**

▪

▪ **Please refer to your RTI Application bearing Registration No. DoHFW/R/E/21/00090 addressed to the Department to the RTI Cell, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Shillong received by this division on 30 August 2021.**



- **It may be noted that under provisions of RTI Act 2005, a SPIO/ Public Authority is under obligation to provide an applicant only that information which exists in the records and that which is held by or under the control of that authority.**
  
- **1. The Department has made this information available on the Meghalaya COVID website. A copy of the same is enclosed for your information.**
  
- 
  
- **2. The Consultative Committee set up by the government to look into the costs of COVID care has made this information available on the Department's website. A copy of the same is enclosed for your information.**
  
  
- **3. The Department can confirm that there has been checks on the hospital fees for COVID treatment. Please refer to the copy attached in the point above.**



- **4. The Government of Meghalaya is the main buyer of medical kits and other equipment required for COVID care. Also, the various economic factors to ensure the viability of private hospitals has also been taken into consideration. Please refer to the minutes, which is readily available on the Department's website.**
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- **5. This has been brought on the Gazette of the Government of Meghalaya on 10 August 2021. A copy of the same is enclosed for your information.**
- 
- **6. The Department can confirm that there have been official complaints. Please refer to the copy of the Consultative Committee's report, whose copy has been enclosed.**
- 
- **7. The Department has always and will continue to make minutes of meetings readily available on the website. Please refer to the minutes which are readily available on the Department's website.**



▪  
▪ **Yours faithfully,**

▪  
▪ **Verdi Sangma**

▪ **Under Secretary (Department of Health and Family Welfare) & PIO**

▪ **Room no. 24, Main Secretariat Building**

▪ **Shillong- 793001**

▪ **Email: 1234@gmail.com**



- Thank you

- Mitela

- Khublei Shibun

