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27/03/17

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS
FOR BRANCH
ARANYA BHAWAN
Block -LA-10A, SECTOR-III
SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA- 700 106**

No.843-For/6M-29/15 (Pt.I)

Dated Kolkata the 15th March, 2017

NOTIFICATION

In continuation of this Department Order No. 390-For dt. 20.02.2015, the Governor is pleased to accord approval to the following Homestay guidelines for Banachaya (Forest Villages) with the condition that all acts and rules related to Forests, Wildlife and Environment applicable should be abided by while implementing Homestay in Forest Villages -

- 1) A viable model can be clusters of five to ten numbers of one-roomed units per village. Each unit shall have one room of 100 sq.ft. each, one attached toilet of 30 sq. ft. each, a common dining space of 80 sq. ft. per unit, total floor area per unit being 210 sq. ft.
- 2) Each cluster shall be managed by a committee of stakeholders / villagers. The concerned Range / Beat Officer shall be the convenor of the committee. The Committee shall have a Bank account that shall be jointly operated by the Range / Beat Officer and a village member of the committee.
- 3) Eco-tourism facilities built with funds from the Departments of Government of West Bengal will remain the property of the Government in the relevant Department and shall not be let out / used by the villagers for some other purpose.
- 4) Profit from the Eco-tourism activities will be shared by Home Stay owner and Village Committee (FPC/EDC) in 50:50 basis. The Committee's receipt will be cycled back for maintenance and development of common infrastructure of the Home Stay facilities.
- 5) Booking for the Home Stay may be made online through the Website of West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited. Assistance of Tour Operators may also be taken to popularize and management of these new Eco-tourism sites.
- 6) A tripartite agreement / MOU shall be signed by the owner of Home Stay with agency funding the homestay / concerned Forest Division of Department of Forests and Village Committee (FPC/EDC) as per the approved standard proforma.

By order of the Governor

Sd/-

(C Sinha)

Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

No.843/1(8)-For

Dated Kolkata the 15th March, 2017

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to -

- 1) The Principal Secretary, Tourism Department
- 2) The Principal Secretary, Environment Department
- 3) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, WB
- 4) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & CWLW, WB
- 5) The Managing Director, WBFDC Ltd.
- 6) The Member Secretary, SFDA
- ✓ 7) The Member Secretary, West Bengal Eco-tourism Advisory Board
- 8) The P.S. to MIC, Forest


OSD & E.O. Joint Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal