

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*212  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2015**

**PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM**

**\*212. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:  
ADV. JOICE GEORGE:**

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented for the promotion of rural tourism in the country along with the funds sanctioned, released and utilised in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and year-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any new scheme under the 'Village Tourism' Project for the development of tourism in the rural areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has identified a number of villages for developing rural tourism in the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Madhya Pradesh;**
- (d) whether the Government is considering to give priority to home-stays in the rural areas of the country; and**
- (e) if so, the details of the policy/guidelines formulated regarding rural tourism as well as home-stay accommodation for generation of rural employment in the country?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

**(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.**

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*212  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2015 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RURAL  
TOURISM**

**(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism has launched a new Scheme Swadesh Darshan for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits around Specific Themes in 2014-15. The Rural Tourism Circuit has been identified as one of the twelve thematic circuits for development under the scheme. Under Swadesh Darshan, integrated development of theme based circuits has been taken up for holistic and inclusive development which can provide engaging and complete tourism experience to both domestic including low budget tourists and foreign tourists. The Scheme envisage enhancement of tourist attractiveness in a sustainable manner by developing world class infrastructure in the circuit destination including rural tourism sites. This year no project has been sanctioned under the Rural Tourism Circuit theme.**

**The Ministry of Tourism has a Rural Tourism Scheme which is a part of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits (PIDDC) Scheme. The main objective of the scheme is to showcase rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages, which have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment etc. Under the scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) is provided for infrastructure development and capacity building to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for each identified site by them. However, no funds were allocated for the States under the PIDDC scheme during 2015-16 and an amount of Rs.20.00 crore has been allocated under U.T. Plan for the PIDDC during 2015-16.**

**The details of funds sanctioned, released and utilized for development of Rural Tourism sites in the country during the last three years is at Annexure I.**

**(d): The Ministry of Tourism has a voluntary all India Scheme named "Incredible India Bed and Breakfast/Homestay Establishments" which had been communicated to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The scheme is applicable for urban as well as rural areas.**

**(e): The main guidelines of the Swadesh Darshan scheme and Incredible India Bed and Breakfast/Homestay Establishments are at Annexure II.**

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**ANNEXURE-I****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*212 ANSWERED ON 14.12.2015 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM**

**Details of Rural Tourism Projects Sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism during the last three years**

**Year 2012-13:**

**(Rs. in lakh)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>No. of Rural Tourism Projects Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Released</b>	<b>Amt. Utilised</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>51.00</b>	<b>40.80</b>	<b>44.20</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Maharashtra</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>49.08</b>	<b>39.26</b>	<b>39.26</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Meghalaya</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Mizoram</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>62.70</b>	<b>50.16</b>	<b>62.70</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Nagaland</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>203.33</b>	<b>40.63</b>	<b>98.88</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Uttarakhand</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17.00</b>	<b>3.40</b>	<b>3.40</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>453.11</b>	<b>230.25</b>	<b>264.44</b>

**Year 2013-14:**

**(Rs. in lakh)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>No. of Rural Tourism Projects Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Released</b>	<b>Amt Utilised</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>928.31</b>	<b>710.66</b>	<b>318.66</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>928.31</b>	<b>710.66</b>	<b>318.66</b>

**Year 2014-15:**

**(Rs. in lakh)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>No. of Rural Tourism Projects Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amt. Released</b>	<b>Amt Utilised</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>131.05</b>	<b>26.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>131.05</b>	<b>26.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*212 ANSWERED ON 14.12.2015 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM****SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME**

The scheme is proposed to be implemented as Central Sector scheme during the 12th Five Year Plan and beyond.

**1. General Provisions of Scheme:****1.1 Definitions–**

- **Tourist Circuit is defined as a route on which at least three major tourist destinations are located such that none of these are in the same town, village or city. At the same time, it would be ensures that they are not separated by a long distance. It should have well defined entry and exit points. A tourist who enters should get motivated itself to visit all the places identified on the circuit.**
- **Theme based Tourist Circuits defined as a tourist circuit around specific themes, such as religion, culture, ethnicity, niche etc. A Theme based Tourist Circuit could be confined to a State or could be a regional circuit covering more than a State/Union Territory.**

**1.2 National Steering Committee (NSC): To steer the mission objectives and vision, a National Steering Committee will be constituted with the following composition:**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Minister in charge, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Secretary, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Vice chairman</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Addl. Secretary, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Financial Advisor, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Culture</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Director General, ASI</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Urban Development</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA)</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Civil Aviation</b>	<b>Member</b>

10.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Skill Development</b>	<b>Member</b>
11.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Road Transport &amp; Highways (RT&amp;H)</b>	<b>Member</b>
12.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Shipping</b>	<b>Member</b>
13.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Power</b>	<b>Member</b>
14.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Environment &amp; Forest (MOEF)</b>	<b>Member</b>
15.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Water Resources, River Development &amp; Ganga Rejuvenation</b>	<b>Member</b>
16.	<b>Secretary or his representative*, M/O Rural Development</b>	<b>Member</b>
17.	<b>Executive Director (Tourism &amp; Catering), M/O Railways</b>	<b>Member</b>
18.	<b>Joint Secretary/Addl. Director General, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Member Secretary</b>
<p><b>* Not below the rank of Joint Secretary. Other Ministries, if required, may also be represented as invitee members on case to case basis.</b></p>		

### **1.2.1 Key responsibilities of NSC:**

- **Enunciate the vision and chalk out the road map for the scheme and provide a platform for exchange of ideas;**
- **Oversee all operations, steer, review and monitor overall performance of the scheme and provide guidance on specific issues relating to the scheme;**
- **Recommend mid-course corrections in the implementation tools;**
- **Periodical oversight and review of proposed/ongoing projects.**

### **1.3 Mission Directorate:**

**There shall be a Mission Directorate headed by the Member Secretary, NSC as Nodal officer. Composition of the Mission Directorate will be as under:**

1.	<b>Joint Secretary/Addl. Dir. General (Member Secretary, NSC)</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>
2.	<b>Director/Deputy Secretary, Finance/Financial Controller</b>	<b>Member</b>
3.	<b>Secretary, Tourism of the concerned State</b>	<b>Member</b>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Representatives of other concerned Ministries</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Director/Deputy Director General, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Convener</b>

#### **1.3.1 Key responsibilities of the Mission Directorate:**

- **Identification of projects in consultation with the States/UTs Govts and other stakeholders;**
- **Appointment of the Project Management Consultant;**
- **Outsourcing of independent specialised agencies for appraisal of DPRs, if required.**
- **Identifying the implementing agencies for implementation of various components of the project;**
- **Ensuring effective coordination with the States/UTs Govts and other stakeholders, Implementing Agencies etc. for effective implementation of the scheme in a time bound manner.**
- **Seeking approvals for the identified projects from the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee and reporting the progress of implementation to the said committee at regular intervals.**
- **Sanction of projects and release of funds to the identified agencies.**
- **Capacity development of States/UTs and other implementing agencies for undertaking various activities relating to identified circuits and destinations therein through setting up of Project Management Units (PMUs), if required.**

**1.4 Program Management Consultant (PMC): The PMC will be a National Level Consultant to be appointed by the Mission Directorate.**

#### **1.4.1 Key Responsibilities of the PMC:**

- **Preparation of Detailed Perspective Plan (DPP) for the identified circuits, identifying the gaps in infrastructural amenities and related skills. The PMC may suggest suitable agencies for addressing the skill gaps. The perspective plan should also include assessment of the funds required, including sources of funds. Business models for investment and operations should be evolved. The thrust of the perspective plan should be on convergence between the different schemes of the central Ministries, the State/UT Governments and other agencies.**
- **Identification of projects in the circuits;**
- **Preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) - Comprehensive DPRs should be prepared for each circuit**

after consultations with the respective State Government/UT administration, local bodies, other stakeholders. For the components to be funded by public funding, DPRs should be prepared on the basis of Schedule of Rates prescribed by the central/State PWD. The DPRs should include inter alia-

- (a) List of individual projects aimed at integrated development of the identified tourist circuit;
  - (b) Project Structuring (Capital structuring, implementation framework)
  - (c) Components meant for private sector to joint sector investment and possible financial linkages
  - (d) Identification of sources of funds from various Government Schemes/ Private Sector
- Liaison with States/UTs/ Other stakeholders
  - Submission of periodical progress report to the Mission Directorate for monitoring of the projects;
  - Assistance for financial closure of projects for PPP and other projects.

#### **1.5 Central Sanctioning & Monitoring Committee (CSMC):**

There will be a Central Sanctioning & Monitoring Committee (CSMC) responsible for sanctioning of the projects submitted by the Mission Directorate and regular monitoring of the progress of implementation. Composition of the CSMC will be as under:

<b>Secretary, MoT</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>
<b>Financial Advisor, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Additional Secretary, M/O Tourism</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Joint Secretary/ADG, MoT (Member Secretary, NSC)</b>	<b>Member</b>

The Committee may invite representatives of other Ministries, if required.

## **2. Identification of Thematic Tourist Circuits and sanction of projects therein:**

### **2.1 Selection criteria and procedure:**

- The Tourist Circuits/Destinations would be identified by the MoT in consultations with the stakeholders and States on the basis of a pre-dominant tourism theme, considering factors such as current tourist traffic, connectivity, potential and significance attached to the sites, holistic tourist experience, etc. The Themes shall include religion, culture, heritage, nature, leisure or any other theme.

- **Central Sanctioning & Monitoring Committee (CSMC)/Mission Directorate will recommend the list of Thematic Tourist Circuits/Destinations to be taken up for integrated infrastructure development for approval of the Chairman, National Steering Committee.**
- **Detailed Perspective Plan (DPP) for each tourist circuit, and DPRs for each individual project would be prepared by the PMC giving the details as stipulated in para 7.4.1.**
- **Appraisal of DPRs will be done by the Mission Directorate or any independent specialised agency outsourced by the directorate for the purpose.**
- **Projects recommended by the Mission Directorate after appraisal will be placed before the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee for approval.**

**2.2 Admissible project components under the Scheme: An illustrative list of components, that would be eligible for Central Financial Assistance under the scheme is given below:**

**2.2.1 Infrastructure Development:**

- **Development/Upgradation of Passenger Terminals (Road, Rail, Water Transport)**
- **Procurement of equipment for eco-friendly modes of tourist transport**
- **Improvement of road connectivity leading to tourist sites/destinations.**
- **Use of clean energy sources for street lighting**
- **Slum upgradation**
- **Tourism Information/Interpretation centres with ATMs/money exchange counters**
- **Informatory/Directional signages**
- **Wayside Amenities with emergency vehicle breakdown, repair and refuel facilities**
- **Infrastructure provision for stationing of caravan vehicles;**
- **Convention Centres/Golf Course/Aquamarine Parks/ amusement parks/theme parks**
- **General Improvements such as earth filling, landscaping (including trees, shrubs), water fountains, fencing, lighting, pavements/walkways/pathways/driveways, seating facilities/shelters, drinking water points, garbage bins, storm water drainage, treatment facilities for sewerage /effluent**
- **External infrastructure such as water supply, sewerage, drainage, electricity and roads.**
- **Restoration, conservation, illumination of monuments/ heritage structures;**

- **Renewable sources of energy for tourist infrastructure**
- **Environmental care and access to clean technology**
- **Parking facilities for two-wheelers, cars, buses, caravans**
- **Toilet , Cloak room facilities and waiting rooms.**
- **Equipments for tourism activities such as sound & light show, water sports, adventure sports, etc**
- **Construction of craft haats/bazaars/souvenir shops/cafeteria**
- **Construction of open air theatres/amphi-theaters**
- **Construction of nature trails, watch towers, rain shelters, log huts**
- **First Aid Centres (including Indian Medicines System);**
- **Helipads, Heliports, Airstrips, Ropeways required for tourist in the identified circuits**
- **Shoreline development & Rejuvenation of natural water bodies such as rivers, lakes, streams, river fronts.**
- **Improvement in communication through telephone booths, mobile services and internet connectivity.**
- **Any other activity directly related to tourism and required for development of the identified circuit.**
- **Consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries, wherever required, will be done on the project components under the scheme.**

#### **2.2.2 Capacity Development, Skill Development & Knowledge management:**

- **Special courses to address the skill gaps identified by the PMC in the Detailed Perspective Plan (DPP).**
- **Short duration skill development training programme under ‘Hunar se RozgarTak(HSRT)’ and ‘Earn while you learn’programmes.**
- **Broadbasing of travel and hospitality education and training, and engagement of Vocational Training Providers (VTPs).**
- **Emphasis on tapping the local potential and expertise in art and crafts.**
- **Documentation and preservation of the knowledge base in tourism for future use.**

#### **2.2.3 Online Presence:**

**GIS based website development and mobile applications, providing:**

- **Location based services and location based contents**
- **Booking facilities through E-Commerce applications**
- **Linkages to applications of existing service providers**
- **Support Dash Boards for tourists and Operators**

- **Decision support reporting for the Department**

**Project Management System:**

- **Tracking progress through online UC Submission**
- **Tracking Procurement through e-procurement system**
- **Tracking completion of milestones**
- **Tracking issue escalations and variations**

**Permission based knowledge portal:**

- **Foster a climate of collaboration among practitioners and Academicians**
- **Create a back end digital library for content preservation**
- **Push relevant research papers to appropriate institutions for future references.**
- **Data Analysis and reporting**

**2.2.4 Upto 10% of the Scheme allocation to be earmarked for IEC Component.**

**2.3 Inadmissible Component projects under the Scheme:**

**The assistance under this scheme shall not be admissible for the following components:**

- (a) **Land acquisition for development**
- (b) **Resettlement and rehabilitation package, Operation, maintenance and management of the assets created**
- (c) **Improvement/investments in assets/structures owned by private entities**

**3. Implementing Agency (IA): The projects identified under this scheme shall be implemented through the identified agencies.**

**4. Funding pattern for the projects:**

- **The Scheme shall be 100% centrally funded for the project components undertaken for public funding. Efforts will be made to achieve convergence with other schemes of Central and State Governments and also to leverage the voluntary funding available for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives of Central Public Sector Undertakings and corporate sector. Efforts would be made to introduce suitable Public Private Partnerships for improved sustainability of the projects. The Viability Gap Funding (VGF) may be provided under the mission in accordance with the relevant guidelines/instructions of the Govt.**

- **It is envisaged that the funding of individual project will vary from State to State and will be finalised on the basis of DPRs prepared by PMC enabling convergence with other government schemes.**
- **The State Governments would submit an undertaking with Government of India indicating their commitment to the scheme by ensuring that the operation and maintenance of the identified and developed projects should be the responsibility of the State. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) may be created for the purpose, wherever feasible. The undertaking would spell out specific milestone to be achieved indicating the works to be undertaken by them in physical and financial terms. State Government contribution towards land, rehabilitation package, O&M should be quantified in the DPR.**

#### **5. Disbursal of Funds:**

- **The funds would be released to the Implementing Agency. The powers to sanction funds in the scheme shall be strictly in conformity with the GFRs and the directions issued by the M/O Finance from time to time. All the proposals will be routed through IFD of M/O Tourism.**
- **Funds to the State Govts/UT Administration will be released as under :-**
  - 1st Instalment - 20% of the project cost on approval/sanction of the project.**
  - 2nd instalment - 60% of the project cost after receipt of utilization certificate for the first instalment.**
  - 3rd instalment - Remaining 20% of the project cost on completion of the work and receipt of utilization certificate.**
- **For the Himalayan and NE States, different funding pattern and duration of projects may be determined by the Mission Directorate keeping in view the difficulties in these areas.**
- **The financial assistance sanctioned to the Central agencies under this scheme will be released as under:**
  - 1st Instalment- 50% of the sanctioned amount on approval/sanction.**
  - 2nd instalment - 30% of the sanctioned amount after utilization of the first instalment**
  - 3rd instalment - Remaining 20% of the sanctioned amount after utilization of the first and second instalments.**

**6. Codal formalities: The Implementing agency shall follow all codal formalities while awarding contracts for works/material/equipment procurement and ensure complete transparency in its transactions. E-tendering/e-procurement will be compulsorily followed while for all tenders.**

**7. Milestones to be observed by the implementing agencies:**

- **Land to be used for the project must be free from all encroachments;**
- **Invitation and finalization of all tenders for the projects shall be completed within 3 months from the date of sanction of the projects;**
- **Work for different phases of the projects shall be completed within the period stipulated in the respective sanction letters.**

**8. Management of Assets created: The tentative operation and maintenance costs of the projects shall be worked out by PMC at the time of preparation of DPR & emphasis shall be given to working out options for sustainable operation and maintenance models through innovative revenue generation options with involvement of Private sector/NGOs/Tour Operators in operation and maintenance. This will help to minimize budgetary commitments on the part of the State Government for O&M services. The National Level Consultants shall render transaction advisory services to assist the state governments in the successful setting up of sustainable O&M models if required.**

**9. Outcomes Parameter: The outcomes of the Integrated Infrastructure Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits on a Mission mode shall be measured in terms of**

- **Increase in tourist traffic in the identified circuits;**
- **Employment generation in the identified sectors;**
- **Enhancement of awareness and development of skills and capacity to augment tourism with value added services;**
- **Increase in revenue generation**
- **Private sector investment in the identified circuits.**

**The outcomes will be regularly evaluated and measured through survey/study by independent agency appointed by the Ministry of Tourism.**

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## **Guidelines for Approval and Registration of Incredible of India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Establishments**

### **Introduction:**

**1. Hotels and other supplementary accommodation are an integral part of a tourist's visit to a place and the services offered by them can make his/her visit memorable. With the aim of providing comfortable Home Stay Facilities of Standardized World Class Services to the tourists, and to supplement the availability of accommodation in the Metros and tourist destinations, Ministry of Tourism will classify fully operational rooms of Bed & Breakfast/Home Stay Facilities as "Incredible India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Establishments". The basic idea is to provide a clean and affordable place for foreigners and domestic tourists alike including an opportunity for foreign tourists to stay with an Indian family to experience Indian customs and traditions and relish authentic Indian cuisine.**

**2. The Incredible India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Facilities will be categorized as follows:-**

- (a) Silver**
- (b) Gold**

**3. The Regional Classification Committee, as specified in the guidelines, will inspect and assess the Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Establishments, based on facilities and services offered. The details of the standards, facilities, services and the documents required for approval of such establishments will be as per these guidelines.**

**4. The Incredible India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Establishment, once approved by Ministry of Tourism, will be duly publicized. A directory of all such approved establishments will also be prepared, so as to enable domestic as well as foreign tourists to live in a homely environment and to take advantage of the scheme. In addition, efforts will be made to organize short term training in hospitality trade to those who would opt for such training.**

### **Detailed Guidelines:**

**1. The Classification for Incredible India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay establishment will be given only in those cases where the owner/promoter of the establishment along with his/her family is physically residing in the same establishment an letting out minimum one room and maximum six rooms (12 beds).**

2. **The scheme will be on bed and breakfast basis and charges will have to be levied accordingly. The type of breakfast to be displayed and the visitors will have to be informed in advance so as to avoid unnecessary dispute.**
3. **Once an establishment applies for classification/re-classification, it will have to be ready at all times for inspection by the Regional Classification Committee. No requests for deferment of inspection will be entertained.**
4. **Classification will be valid for two years from the date of issue of orders or in case of reclassification from the date of expiry of the last classification provided that the application has been received within the stipulated time i.e. 3 months before the expiry of the last classification.**
5. **Incredible India Bed & Breakfast/Homestay Establishment applying for classification will have to submit the following documents along with supporting documents:**
  - a) **Application format**
  - b) **Checklist of facilities.**
  - c) **Undertaking.**
6. **The application fees payable for classification/reclassification of IIB&B/Homestay will be as follows for the Govt. of India. The demand draft will have to be payable to "Pay & Accounts Officer, Ministry of Tourism, and New Delhi".**

<b>Star Category</b>	<b>For Classification/Reclassification</b>
<b>Silver</b>	<b>Rs. 3,000</b>
<b>Gold</b>	<b>Rs, 5,000</b>

7. **An IIB&B/Homestay Establishment will be classified following two stage procedure.**
  - a) **The presence of facilities and services will be evaluated against the enclosed Checklist. (Checklist will have to be duly filled in and signed on all pages and submitted along with the application).**
  - b) **The quality of facilities and services will be evaluated by the Regional Classification Committee. Due preference will be accorded to the homes, which are able to provide Indian experience by way of Indian décor, authentic and exotic Indian cuisine etc.**
8. **The Regional Classification committee will consist of the following:**
  1. **Regional Director, India tourism – Chairman.**
  2. **Representative from IATO.**
  3. **Representative from TAAI.**
  4. **Representative from local India tourism Office.**
  5. **Representative from State Tourism Department.**

- 9. The Chairman and any 2 members will constitute a quorum. The recommendation of the Committee will be approved by the Chairman Hotel and Restaurant Approval and Classification committee (HRACC).**
- 10. Any deficiencies/rectifications pointed out by the Regional Classification committee will have to be complied within the stipulated time which will be allotted in consultation with the representative/representatives of the establishment during inspection. Failure to do so will result in rejection of the application.**
- 11. The Committee may recommend to the Chairman, HRACC a category either higher or lower than the one applied for. In case the category applied for is higher than the one recommended by the Committee, then the applicant will have to deposit the required fee for the recommended category. However, in case of the category recommended being lower than the one applied for, then there will be no refund of extra classification fee.**
- 12. The IIB&B/Homestay Establishment will be expected to maintain required standards at all times. The Chairman, HRACC could authorize a surprise inspection of the establishment at any time without previous notice.**
- 13. Any changes in the facilities of the IIB&B/ Homestay Establishment will have to be informed to the Regional Director, India tourism Office, within 30 days. If any violation of this comes to the notice of the Committee then the classification will stand withdrawn/terminated.**
- 14. All cases of classification would be finalized within 30 days of the application being made to the Regional Director concerned complete in all respect.**
- 15. In case of any dissatisfaction with the decision of HRACC, the establishment may appeal to Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, and Government of India for review and reconsideration within 30 days of receiving the communication regarding classification /reclassification. No requests will be entertained beyond this period.**
- 16. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India reserves the right to modify the guidelines/terms and conditions from time to time.**
- 17. The rate of taxes for property, electricity and water to be paid for classification IIB&B/Homestay Establishment will be those prescribed by the appropriate authorities.**

**Note: Items No. 5 (c), 6, 8 and 15 may be suitably amended by the State Govt. /UT.**

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