



**Tele-fax:
03322141196**

**Government of West Bengal
Department of Jails,
Second Floor, Block-2,
Writers Buildings,
Kolkata-700001**

No. 595 /Jails- 4M-51/09

Date:- 26/5/2009

NOTIFICATION

The Governor is hereby pleased to accord approval for formation and functioning of a Self Help Group in Alipore Central Correctional Home. The said Self-Help Group will have as its members 10 convict-inmates residing in the Correctional Home premises. The following factors are to be taken into consideration for smooth functioning of the SHG:

- The SHG, named "Notun Jibon" will be facilitated by the representatives of Ramakrishna Mission Ashram,. Malda under the overall leadership of Swami Divyananda Majaraj. The Non-Government Organisation will provide facilitative support in running the affairs of the group including acting as its interface with the external agencies/ individuals.
- The SHG will operate a "Canteen" facility inside the Correctional Home for use by the inmates. Necessary infrastructure will be provided by the Correctional Home authority.
- Since this is a unique initiative the Government will provide necessary utensils and implements required to start the activity as part of the training cost.
- As decided by the members of the proposed Self Help Group in its meeting on 23/4/2009 attended by the Officers of the Department and the Directorate, the inmate members will contribute Rs.1,000.00 each as part of the initial coffer and thereafter @ Rs.50.00 per week. Said contribution from the members will be used to purchase raw materials and other consumables for running the canteen.
- The Government is further pleased to order that the wages earned by the members of the Self-Help Group against labour rendered in the Correctional Home will be fully converted into expendable category. The stipulation of keeping 50% of the wage as non-expendable is withdrawn in relation to the members of this Self Help Group. Instead, the Superintendent, Alipore Central Correctional Home is hereby authorised to allow use of the entire deposit of the said convicts for contribution to the SHG coffer and for other purposes.
- It is further ordered that since the inmate members of the Self Help Groups are being associated with productive activities in the Correctional Home and this will require total involvement of the members, the question of giving wages against labour will have to be reconsidered after obtaining credit linkage to the group. As an alternative, the member-inmates will receive the profits from the activities in the Canteen after payment of bank loan and cost of activities.
- The Superintendent, Alipore Central Correctional Home will inform all the inmates in the correctional home that the Canteen has been opened and the inmates are free to collect coupons against payment from the Office and purchase food and other items available at the said Canteen.

- The Superintendent will maintain a register for transactions in the Canteen/ in connection with the Canteen wherein all the receipts and payments will be recorded.
- All the inmates and their family members coming for interview will be encouraged to deposit money to the CH authority against appropriate receipt for use by the inmates for purchase of food and other items from the Canteen. Superintendent of the CCH will keep separate accounts for all such cash deposited to the inmates' accounts, either from wages or from contributions received from the family members. No cash will be handed over to the inmates. Instead, they will be given coupons/ tokens of appropriate denomination which will have appropriate money value for the purpose of purchase of items from the Canteen.
- Accounts of the SHG will be operated by the group as per NABARD/ banking norms. However, since they members are in confinement within the Correctional Home, the Superintendent concerned is authorised to transact banking operation with due authority from the SHG Office bearers.
- Appropriate training will be imparted to the SHG members with support from external agencies.
- The Department proposes to link the Group with appropriate Commercial Bank for on-lending once the group achieves solidarity and qualifies in the grading process. However, this is subject to banking norms and practices.
- For any transaction by the SHG members for on-lending amongst themselves, for reinvestment to the working/ fixed capital and for other consumption purposes, no separate approval from the Government will be required.

Sd./

Additional Chief Secretary

No. 595 /1 (8) Jails

Date:- 26/5/2009

Copy forwarded to

1. The Additional Director General of Police & Inspector General of Correctional Services, Government of West Bengal
2. The DIG (S & W) of Correctional Services
3. The Superintendent, Alipore Central Correctional Home
4. The Superintendent, Presidency Correctional Home/ Midnapore Central Correctional Home/ Berhampore Central Correctional Home/ Jalpaiguri Central Correctional Home for information
5. The General Manager, RPCD, Reserve Bank of India, Kolkata
6. The Chief General Manager, NABARD
7. The AGM (Planning & Priority Sector, UBI for information with a request to render necessary support to the SGHG in opening of the Bank account and other formalities. The question of bank linkage to the SGH may please be considered at appropriate stage.
8. The Principal, IJHM, Taratola, Kolkata-700088 for information.

O.S.D. & Ex- officio Deputy Secretary
Department of Jails