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COMMERCE & TRANSPORT (COMMERCE) DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 16th August 2005

No. 7055-GPP-93/2005/Com.—The Government of Orissa have adopted a Boat Rule called “Orissa Boat Rule, 2004” which came into force with effect from dated the 4th March 2004. Under this Rule all types of boats coming under the purview of registration after fulfillment of other criterias as laid down in the Rule.

It has come to the notice of Government that boats plying in Chilika Lake carrying tourists do not have any specifications in comparison to other general boats plying in Chilika Lake. Since dolphins are available including other water species like migratory birds, it is necessary to have an uniformity specified for tourist boats.

In order to conserve the rare species and to maintain the ecological balance in Chilika Lake, it has been decided to maintain an uniform code of conduct for the boats carrying tourists in the Chilika Lake.

As such, a Sub-Committee was constituted comprising the CRC-cum-Special Secretary, Commerce and Transport Department as Chairman and Chairman, Chilika Development Authority and Director Tourism as members as per the decision of the meeting taken by Hon'ble Speaker, O.L.A. regarding development of Chilika Lake on 19th October 2004 to look into the matter.

As per the recommendation of the said Committee and on the suggestions and request of the C.D.A. and Department of Tourism the following specifications are decided to be followed strictly by the boats to carry tourists in Chilika Lake as well as in the State.

- (1) All tourist boats should have one colour scheme of Sky Blue and Cream Covering from bottom to deck in the proportion of 2/3 and 1/3 respectively.
- (2) A canopy cover extending to at least 60% of the length of the boat is required. The canopy cover should be of Sky blue colour supported by wooden mast with a height of at least 4 ½ ft. from the deck. The canopy should be of Reksine with thickness 1.5 MM.
- (3) All mechanical propelled boats shall have mufflers to reduce the noise level to 70 decibel.

- (4) To identify tourist boats, a Sky blue flag of 3 ft. X 2 ft. size should be at the top of the mast.
- (5) All tourist boats should have at least one set of binocular of 10 X magnification.
- (6) A Dust bin to be fixed in all tourist boats.
- (7) All tourist boats must fix propeller cover particularly with fibre re-enforced plastic cover-mesh-Neelkamal/Jibu boats/Mecon/Sea craft.
- (8) All tourist boats should have cushioned seats with rexin cover.
- (9) The boats should carry life jackets/insulated rubber tubes to meet unforeseen situation.

By order of the Governor

Smt. RAJALAKSHMI
Principal Secretary to Government