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**Government of West Bengal
Department of Forests
Aranya Bhawan,
Block-La/10A, Sector-II, Kolkata-98.**

No.396-For

Date:06/02/2017

BONYA PRAN SATHI PROKOLPA

Honorary Wildlife Volunteer Service Programme (HWVSP)

NOTIFICATION

Back ground: The State of West Bengal is the only State of India where the Protected Areas (National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Tiger Reserves and others) are located at 14000' in eastern Himalayas as well as at sea level in Sundarban. West Bengal has 6 National Parks and 15 Wildlife Sanctuaries and covers almost 40% area of forest, a feat no other state could match.

Wildlife Conservation cannot be done in isolation and it was under active consideration of the Government in the Department of Forests for some time past to involve local communities and wildlife loving peoples in wildlife conservation. In order to achieve and to create social fencing the Governor is hereby pleased to notify the 'Bonyapran Sathi Prokolpa' or 'Honorary Wildlife Volunteer Service Programme (HWVSP)' in the State of West Bengal.

Objective:

1. To involve the individuals in Wildlife Conservation Programme of Forest Department, West Bengal.
2. To increase public support for wildlife conservation programme especially in Protected Areas.
3. To impart nature education to civil society by capacity building through ground level exposure.
4. To provide an opportunity to people to serve "Wildlife" voluntarily

Salient features:

1. This programme is aimed at providing an opportunity to the self sustained adult professionals of any stream, students, others to serve in Protected Areas of West Bengal to fulfill the passion for Wildlife Conservation.
2. The programme is self-financing i.e. all cost for training, stay, travel and other expenses have to be borne by the persons selected for the programme. Govt. of West Bengal shall not bear any expenses for any individual for running the programme.
3. The interested persons have to apply to the 'Chief Wildlife Warden' in prescribed form after the program is launched.
4. The selection of individual will be done by a committee formed as :

a. The PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, West Bengal	-Chairman
b. Representative of Forest Department	-Member
c. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife (N)	-Member
d. One member of State Board for Wildlife	-Member
e. One NGO working on field of Wildlife Conservation	-Member
f. The Conservator of Forests, Wildlife (Hqr.)	-Member Secretary

The Chairman of the committee shall choose the members in respect of serial number 'd' and 'e'.

5. The Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal, shall calculate the cost of programme at 'No Profit, No Loss' concept and will inform all concerned at the time of launch of scheme.
6. Once selected the 'Bonyapran Sathi' shall be asked to deposit the fee (cost of programme) in an account to be informed.
7. All funds of such programme shall be kept in bank account of SFDA/BTCFT/STCFT so as to make them readily available at short notices.
8. The selected individuals will be provided an "Orientation Training" (indoor and outdoor), details of which shall be decided by the Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal.
9. The trained 'Bonyapran Sathi' shall be asked to provide voluntary service in any forest area/ Protected Area of West Bengal for 7 to 15 days in a year for which they shall not be paid.
10. If an individual fail to give his/her services for 2 years, he/she shall be treated disqualified for the programme.
11. All the rules for the stay in forest/ Protected Areas shall be framed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal and the 'Bonyapran Sathi' has to give an undertaking in writing to follow the rules.
12. The 'Bonyapran Sathi' under no circumstances shall be treated as an employee of the Govt. of West Bengal.

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Eligibility:

1. Any adult person who is resident of the West Bengal.
2. Person has to be medically fit duly certified by doctor for outdoor, forest duties
3. Person has to bear his/her expenses for the programme as the programme is of 'No Profit, No Loss' concept.

Service Orientation:

The Voluntary service to be rendered by the participants will be in the field of Nature Interpretation, Nature Education, Forest Protection in low conflict areas, Community participation, habitat improvement programme, monitoring of Wildlife and Wildlife management etc

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(C. Sinha)


Principal Secretary,
 Department of Forests,
 Government of West Bengal.

No.396(5)-For/FR/O/11M-21/16

Date:06/02/2017

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The PCCF & HoFF, West Bengal
2. The PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, West Bengal
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife (N)
- ✓ 4. The Conservator of Forests, Wildlife (Hqr.)
5. The P.S to MIC, Forests.


 OS.D. & E.O Joint Secretary,
 Department of Forests,
 Government of West Bengal.