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PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, DJ-4, SECTOR-II, SALT LAKE, KOL-91**  
**WEBSITE: [www.anagrasarkalyan.gov.in](http://www.anagrasarkalyan.gov.in)**

**RESOLUTION**

**No. 2505-BCW/6S-08/16 dated the 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.**— Whereas it is considered expedient to establish a Development Board for the Damai community of West Bengal, the Governor is hereby pleased to establish a Board by the name '**The West Bengal Damai Development and Cultural Board**' with its **Head Office in Kalimpong**, District Darjeeling, West Bengal, under the administrative control of the **Backward Classes Welfare Department**, Government of West Bengal. This '**The West Bengal Damai Development and Cultural Board**' shall be registered under the **West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 (West Ben. Act XXVI of 1961)**.

1. The aims and objects of the Board shall be:

- (a) to preserve, promote and safeguard the traditional folk art, folk music, folk dances and folk culture of the Damai community;
- (b) to promote education among the Damai community;
- (c) to promote traditional games, sports among the Damai community;
- (d) to publish or cause to publish Literatures paper, Books, Research Works, Magazines relating to customary rights, rituals, folklore and other related literatures of the Damai community and showcasing their identity and culture;
- (e) to facilitate the training and development of the people engaged in the traditional profession of the Damai community;
- (f) to facilitate construction of houses, library, and museum for the Damai community;
- (g) to protect the historical and cultural landmarks, objects, structures, festivals of the Damai community and to promote traditional Damai medicinal practices;
- (h) to undertake activities for promotion of traditional Damai Artisans', Folk Artists' and Musicians and promote traditional Damai profession and practices;

- (i) to provide assistance for developmental activities of the Damai community and to take up social welfare activities for the Damai community;
- (j) to establish the centre for the Protection of Heritages and promote customary rights;
- (k) to do all such acts, deeds, matters and things connected thereto and therewith as may be necessary or deemed to be necessary as well as incidental or conducive to the foregoing objects.

2. The following shall be the authorities of the Board, namely, —

- (a) General Body and (b) Executive Body.

3. **General Body.**—

- a) The **General Body** shall initially consist of not more than thirty-one (31) members to be nominated in the following manner;—
  - i) Chairperson — (to be nominated by the State Government in the Backward Classes Welfare Department from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damai community of West Bengal);
  - ii) Vice-Chairperson — (to be nominated by the State Government in the Backward Classes Welfare Department from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damai of West Bengal);
  - iii) Member-Secretary — One officer appointed by the State Government on deputation;
  - iv) ex-officio member — District Magistrate, Darjeeling or his representative;
  - v) ex-officio member — District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Darjeeling;
  - vi) ex-officio member — Director, Cultural Research institute or his representative;
  - vii) other members to be nominated by the State Government from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damai of West Bengal.

(b) **Meeting of the General Body.**—

The General Body shall ordinarily meet at least twice a year on date, time and place to be fixed by the Secretary in consultation with the Chairperson and shall:

- i) adopt the annual report of the preceding year;
- ii) pass the audited accounts and budget estimates and;
- iii) transact any business as well be placed in the agenda suggested by the executive body.

(c) **Extra-ordinary meeting.**—

An extra-ordinary meeting of the General body may be called by the Secretary, in consultation with the Chairperson and at the advice of the Executive body when needed to transact any special business or at the requisition signed by at least ten (10) members of the Board. The Chairperson shall convene the requisitioned meeting within thirty (30) days from the date of the receipt of the requisition. If the requisitioned meeting fails to attain quorum, it will not be adjourned and will be treated as failed.

Notice of the place date and hour of any meeting and of the business to be transacted shall be issued to the members of the board at least seven (7) days before the date so fixed for the meeting.

(d) The following **procedures** shall be applicable to all the **meetings of the General Body.**—

- i) One-fifth of the members shall constitute the quorum. If there be no quorum, the meeting shall stand postponed to a date to be fixed by the Chairperson. A fresh notice shall be issued and if there be no quorum again those present shall be competent to transact business.
- ii) The Chairperson or in his absence the Vice-Chairperson shall take the Chair. If neither the Chairperson nor the Vice-Chairperson be present the members present shall nominate a President for the meeting from amongst them and transact the business.

- (e) The **power and duties of the General Body** shall be as follows.—
- i) to provide guidelines of the activities of the board in conformity with the objects defined;
  - ii) to consider and adopt annual report of the board;
  - iii) to consider and approve the audited accounts and the budget estimates;
  - iv) to appoint auditor for auditing the annual accounts.

#### 4. **Executive Body:**

- (a) The Executive body consisting of not more than eleven (11) members shall be constituted as following by the Government from amongst the members of the general body, namely,—
- i) Chairperson — to be nominated by the State Government in the Backward Classes Welfare Department from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damai of West Bengal;
  - ii) Vice-Chairperson — to be nominated by the State Government in the Backward Classes Welfare Department from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damais' of West Bengal;
  - iii) Member-Secretary — One officer appointed by the State Government on deputation;
  - iv) ex-officio Member — District Magistrate, Darjeeling or his representative;
  - v) remaining 7 (Seven) members to be nominated by the State Government from among the Damai community to be decided on the basis of recommendation of the largest recognised society or organization of the Damais' of West Bengal).

Provided that the State Government in the Backward Classes Welfare Department may nominate such other persons, as it may consider necessary for smooth and proper functioning of the Board as members of the Executive body, who will also be members of the General Board.

#### (b) **Meeting of the Executive body:**

- i) the executive body shall ordinarily meet four times in a year and the quorum of such meeting shall be six (6);
- ii) an extra-ordinary meeting of the executive body may be called at the requisition of at least six (6) members of the Executive body to transact any special business. The requisitioned meeting shall be convened within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the requisition. If the requisitioned meeting fails to attain quorum, it will not be adjourned and will be treated as failed;
- iii) notice of all meetings of the executive body shall be issued at least seven (7) days before the date fixed for such meeting.

#### (c) The **power and duties of the Executive body** shall be as follows.—

- i) to manage the affairs of the body and for this purpose to constitute committees and / or sub-committees consisting of the members of the body and to frame and adopt such regulations, bye-laws and pass such orders as may appear conducive to and necessary for the efficient administration of the board and the attainment of these objects provided that such regulations shall not be repugnant to these regulations and shall be reported to the general body, the executive body will constitute a committee or sub-committee to be headed by the chairperson or the vice-chairperson for overall development of the Damai community;
- ii) to prepare and place before the general body and annual report, the audited accounts and the budget estimates;
- iii) to manage all the movable and immovable properties belonging to the board;
- iv) to acquire and accept in the name of the board any property (movable and immovable), articles, donations and gifts;
- v) to keep accounts audited and the budget estimate prepared, to do all other acts and deeds as shall be necessary and relevant in furtherance to the objects of the board;

