

ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT SWAYAMPURNA GOA

DIRECTORATE OF PANCHAYATS GOVERNMENT OF GOA

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<u>Sub:-</u> Issuance of bifurcation house number in respect of existing dwelling house in Village Panchayat jurisdiction regarding......

The Goa Panchayat Raj 1994 and Rules made thereunder are silent regarding issuance of bifurcation house number in respect of existing dwelling house in Village Panchayat jurisdiction, whenever such application is received by interested applicants requesting for issue of bifurcation house number to a portion of existing house. It is also noticed that there is practice in some Village Panchayats to allow such applications based on bare minimum documents whereas some Village Panchayats are hesitating/refusing to issue bifurcation house number in the absence of such provision in the Act/Rules. It is also noticed that some Village Panchayats are insisting applicants of such dwelling house to produce title documents clearly indicating his/her title to the portion of the existing dwelling house in which such co-occupier/his family is living separately within the same existing dwelling house. Such insistence on the part of Village Panchayat is causing great hardships to the applicant in availing bifurcation house number and deprive such applicant and his family members in availing basic essential amenities like separate water connection and electricity connection in their name. There are numerous such cases wherein due to expansion of original family staying in a particular existing house, certain members occupying the house prefer to reside separately within the existing dwelling house as a separate entity which can be somewhat termed as a nuclear family,

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which intends to the pay the house tax in their own name for the portion of area occupied by them of the existing house. Such nuclear families often resides under the same common roof of existing dwelling house, however utilizes separate kitchen arrangement and therefore, requirement of basic essential amenities like separate water connection and separate electricity connection in the name of head of nuclear family becomes essential to make living easy and free from flimsy disputes. To release separate water and electricity connection, obtaining of bifurcation house number becomes a pre-requisite document for producing before the authorities such as Public Works Department and Electricity Department. In order to create ease of living to such nuclear families by obtaining bifurcation house number to existing dwelling house in case the applicant desires so, the Government considers it appropriate to issue following instructions to Village Panchayats.

Rule 18 of the Goa Panchayat (Imposition of taxes, fees and other dues) Rules clearly provides on whom the house tax is primary leviable. It is made clear that in case of receipt of such application from applicant for allotting bifurcation to existing House number in respect of the registered house number of existing dwelling house by any co-occupier, who is in actual occupation of portion of dwelling house, such application should be allowed by Panchayat without insisting Village for cumbersome documents. Allotting a bifurcation house number to an co-occupier applicant who is in occupation of the portion of dwelling house does not confer any title to the said applicant in respect of the portion of dwelling house. The purpose of issuance of house number to such applicant is to give separate identity to said portion of dwelling house and is merely fiscal in nature for taxation purpose which does not confer upon him any title of the property/portion of dwelling house.

In view of above, while dealing with such cases, the Village Panchayats shall only insist for application from co-occupier applicant of the dwelling house for issuance of bifurcation house

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number in Form 'A' attaching therewith the dimensioned sketch of the portion of original dwelling house which is under occupation of the said applicant, who is co-occupant. The applicant shall produce following documents:-

- (i) House tax copy of existing house number
- (ii) Death certificate of father, mother or original house tax assesee, as the case may be.
- (iii) Birth certificate of applicant or any other document showing linkage with the original house tax assesse/house number such as bank pass book, ration card etc.
- (iv) Form 'A'
- (v) Sketch of portion of house under occupation of the applicant.
- (vi) Form I & XIV

It is further enjoined upon the Village Panchayat secretaries that such application shall be disposed within a period of 15 days from date of receipt of application, alongwith issuance of NOC for water connection/electricity connection in the name of new assesse, if requested, on payment of fees decided by the Village Panchayat as per prescribed procedure. The bifurcation house number shall contain the original house number with suffix as '/A', '/B' etc. The portion to which bifurcation house number is issued shall be necessarily a contigious portion of the existing dwelling house recorded in Form 7 (Assessment Register) & Form 8 (Demand and Collection Register, having separate kitchen arrangements within the same house. The Village Panchayat shall also carry out inspection of the house to ensure that particulars furnished by the applicant are correct.

This issues with the approval of the Government.

(**Siddhi T. Halarnakar**) Director of Panchayats, Panaji-Goa.

Encl: Form 'A'

To, All Block Development Officers All Village Panchayat Secretaries

Copy to:-

- 1. The Additional Director of Panchayats-I /II, for information.
- 2. The Dy. Director of Panchayats, North/South, for information.
- 3. Guard File.