

## Directorate of Tourism (DoT), Govt of Maharashtra



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Press release:

## Inspection of hotels to award industry status begins from 3rd August

**Mumbai, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2022:** The Directorate of Tourism (DoT), Maharashtra Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra is finally kick starting the inspection of hotels for awarding industry status to them. The Tourism Directorate of Pune is the first one to commence the inspection on 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2022. A total number of 181 non-classified hotels have registered and applied since June 2021 in Pune region that the inspection committee and the appointed agency will be visiting.

The Government of Maharashtra had awarded Industry status to the Hospitality sector in the April 1999 but that remained only on paper and wasn't implemented. In 2020, there was a development in the decision when the State government issued the GR, announcing the criteria for levying taxes and charges at the industrial rate for the non-classified hotels. Since then, non-classified hotels were appealed to register and apply to avail the benefits. And now, as the regional offices have received a considerable number of registrations, the inspection committee will begin their site visits.

The Committee will be chaired by the Deputy Directors of the respective regions, a representative of the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) department, regional representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), local representative of Hotel and Restaurant Association (HRA) and a representative of Tour Operator Association (TOA). The agency Qualstar has prepared a road map for inspecting sites which will be followed by the committee.

Dr. Dhananjay Sawalkar, Joint Director, Directorate of Tourism (DoT) informed, "So far 446 applications across Maharashtra have been received by DoT. After inspection, if these hotels fulfill all the said criteria, they will be eligible to receive industrial status. This will make electricity charges, water bill, property tax and, non-agricultural tax available to the registered hotels as per industrial rates."

Hotels can continue to register themselves with Maharashtra Tourism department and avail the benefits attached with the industry status.

Supriya Karmarkar, Deputy Director of Pune region has appealed the hoteliers to apply for industrial status by visiting the official website of 'Maharashtra Tourism' <u>https://www.maharashtratourism.gov.in</u> and submitting the online application form along with all the required documents.

The industrial concessions will be applicable from the date of registration certificate of the applicant hotel. Interested hoteliers should check the criteria on the official website of the government <u>https://www.maharashtra.gov.in/1145/Government-Resolutions</u>

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In case you would like to conduct an interview or have any queries, please contact: Name: Indira Thakur, PRO Contact number: 9819620484 Email-id: <u>pro.dot-mh@gov.in</u>