

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
FINANCE (ESTABLISHMENT-B) DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-06**

ecf No.FEB.715532/32

11-11-2025

ORDER

The Hon'ble Gauhati High Court, vide order dated 30.07.2025 passed in WP(C) No. 6090/2024, was pleased to set aside this department's order No ecf. 575144/107 dated 13.11.2024 and remitted the matter to the Secretary to the Govt of Assam, Finance Department to reconsider and pass a fresh order

Therefore in continuation of this department earlier order No ecf. 575144/107 dated 13.11.2024 and in compliance with the said direction, the matter has been re-examined with reference to the provisions of the *Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998* and the *Lotteries (Regulation) Rules, 2010*, and it is observed that—

The said Act empowers the State Government to organize, conduct, or promote lotteries either by itself or through a body corporate or other agency, but it does not authorize any individual or private organization to conduct lotteries independently. Assam continues to be a lottery-free State, as affirmed by the Government of Assam before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Original Suit No. 1/2021* filed by the State of Meghalaya.

However, several cultural and religious committees have, over the years, organized gift coupon or lucky draws during festivals such as *Raas Mahotsav, Laxmi Puja, Dol Utsav etc*, primarily for community welfare and charitable activities.

Taking into consideration the above facts, judicial directions, and prevailing public practices, and in modification of the earlier order No ecf. 575144/107 dated 13.11.2024, the Government of Assam is pleased to decide as follows:

Permission may be granted by the District Commissioners for conduct of Gift Coupon Draws/Lucky Draws only during recognized local festivals such as *Raas Mahotsav, Laxmi Puja, Dol Utsav etc*,

subject to the following conditions:

1. Each organizing committee shall apply in writing to the District Commissioner of the concerned district before conducting the proposed event.
2. The District Commissioner upon receipt of such petition may grant permission specifying the time period, venue, and other conditions ensuring maintenance of Law and Order in the venue and around.
3. The District Commissioner shall instruct the concerned tax authorities to ensure collection of all taxes and dues from such entities as per permissible law/rules.
4. No permission shall be granted to any individual or entity having pending dues to the Government (Central/State/Local).
5. The Home & Political Department or the District Commissioner may include any additional conditions considered necessary for granting such permission in public interest.
6. This order shall not be construed as authorization for any commercial or online lottery, and any violation shall attract action under the *Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998* and other relevant laws.
7. This order is issued in compliance with the judgment of the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court in WP(C) No. 6090/2024, and shall supersede all previous orders on the subject.

Secretary to the Government of Assam
Finance Department

Memo No.FEB. 715532/32-A
Copy to:

11-11-2025

1. The Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam – for kind appraisal of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Finance Minister.
3. The Staff officer of the Chief Secretary, Assam for kind information of Chief Secretary.
4. P.S. to the Addl. Chief Secretary, Home & Political Department –

for kind information.

5. P.S. to the Senior most Seretary, Finance Department, Assam for kind appraisal of the Seniormost Seretary.
6. P.S. to the LR & Secretary, Judicial Department - for kind information of LR & Secretary.
7. All District Commissioners - for kind information and strict compliance.
8. President/Secretary, Concerned Committees - for kind information.
9. Content Manager, Finance (Estt-B) Department for necessary uploading .

By Order etc.,
esigned
Secretary to the Government of Assam
Finance Department