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Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Foreigners Division

PROTECTED AND RESTRICTED AREAS

1. Under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958, all areas falling between the 'Inner line', as defined in the said order, and the International Border of the State have been declared as Protected Area. Protected Areas are located in the following States:-

- (i) Whole of Arunachal Pradesh
- (ii) Parts of Himachal Pradesh
- (iii) Parts of Jammu & Kashmir
- (iv) Whole of Manipur
- (v) Whole of Mizoram
- (vi) Whole of Nagaland
- (vii) Parts of Rajasthan
- (viii) Whole of Sikkim (partly in Protected Area and partly in Restricted Area)
- (ix) Parts of Uttarakhand

As per instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 30.12.2010, the entire area of the States of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland has been excluded from the Protected Area regime notified under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order 1958, initially for a period of one year w.e.f. 1.1.2011, which has been extended from time to time. This relaxation has been extended till 31.12.2022 subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Citizens of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan and foreign nationals having their origin in these countries would continue to require prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs before their visit to the States of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland.
- (ii) All foreigners visiting these States will register themselves with the Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) of the State/District they visit within 24 hours of their arrival.

Myanmar nationals visiting the States of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland are also excluded from the requirement of obtaining a Protected Area Permit till 31.12.2022 subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) All such Myanmar nationals shall obtain a visa from the Indian Missions/ Posts abroad or e-Tourist Visa facility which has been made available to the nationals of Myanmar under the existing procedure.
- (ii) All such Myanmar nationals shall have to compulsorily register themselves with the Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) of the State/ District they visit within 24 hours of their arrival. No such registration would be required if the Myanmar nationals are only passing through the State by road with no intention of staying in that particular State.

2. Under the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963, the following areas have been declared as 'Restricted' Areas :-

- (i) Andaman & Nicobar Islands - Entire Union Territory

(ii) Sikkim - Part of the State

3. A foreigner is not normally allowed to visit a Protected / Restricted Area unless it is established to the satisfaction of the Government that there are extraordinary reasons to justify such a visit.
4. Every foreigner, except a citizen of Bhutan, who desires to enter and stay in a Protected or Restricted Area, is required to obtain a special permit from a competent authority delegated with powers to issue such a special permit to a foreigner, on application in the prescribed form.
5. With a view to promote tourism, some areas (notified by the Government of India from time to time) can be visited by foreign tourists, either in groups, or as a couple in the case of a husband and wife, or by individuals, after obtaining the necessary permit from the competent authority.
6. If a foreign national intends to visit a place in the Protected/ Restricted Area for activities other than tourism on a Visa other than Tourist Visa, prior permission of the Ministry of Home Affairs shall be taken before grant of Protected Area Permit (PAP)/ Restricted Area Permit (RAP) to the foreigner and grant of PAP/ RAP for the specific purpose (i.e. Business, Employment, Studies etc.) shall be endorsed on the passport of the foreigner. Besides, if a foreign national intends to visit a place in the Protected/ Restricted Area which is not opened for tourism on a Tourist Visa, prior reference shall be made to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

However, if a foreign national is holding a visa other than Tourist Visa and intends to visit the Protected/ Restricted Area for tourism purpose only, he/ she may be granted Special Permit for places opened for tourism.

7. In addition, the following instructions must be strictly adhered to:
 - (i) Tourists are permitted to visit **ONLY** the designated places and for the period for which they are authorized.
 - (ii) The permit will be valid for the specific tourist circuit/route and specific entry / exit points. No area other than the ones indicated in the permit should be visited.
 - (iii) A foreigner must enter/exit the North-Eastern States by air only.
 - (iv) The main entry/exit point for the North-Eastern States is the Guwahati (Dispur) Airport. Other Airports in the North-Eastern Region at Aizawl, Imphal and Kohima can also be used as entry/exit points provided the foreigner is in possession of a valid RAP/PAP for that area.
 - (v) A foreigner can travel within the North Eastern states through the National Highways or by air. While travelling by road, the tour should be undertaken largely through the National Highways. Where the places to be visited are situated on a National Highway, no other road should be utilized. In cases where the places, which are to be visited, are not on a National Highway, the tour should be undertaken in such a way that the maximum distance is travelled on a National Highway, restricting the utilization of other road routes to the minimum. Non-compliance with this direction will be treated as a violation.
 - (vi) Tourist groups shall be required to report at the declared entry point and the State Government concerned shall ensure that a Liaison Officer accompanies the group. The Liaison Officer shall be appointed by the State Government concerned.

8. Instructions for PAP/RAP holders

1. The permit is valid for group tourists consisting of two or more persons only.

2. The permit is valid for the specific tourist circuit/route and the specific entry / exit point. No area other than the ones indicated in the permit shall be visited.
3. The permit holder must keep sufficient number of photocopies of the permit as he/she may be required to deposit a copy at each point of entry/exit.
4. The permit holder shall not stay in the restricted/protected area after the expiry of the permit.

9. **Instructions for Travel Agents/ Tour Operators/ Guest Houses**

1. Travel agents/tour operators shall ensure that the tourist groups sponsored by them are in possession of valid Restricted/Protected Area Permit.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the travel agents/tour operators to ensure that the tourist groups do not go to places other than the ones that are permitted and also ensure that they do not stay there after the expiry of the valid period.
3. Owners of the guest houses/hotels must ensure that only foreigners with valid Restricted/Protected Area Permits stay with them. It is mandatory for the guest houses/hotels and also individuals to inform the local police about the arrival/departure of a foreigner within 24 hours if a foreigner stays with them.
4. Action will be taken against those who do not follow the above instructions under the Foreigners Act, 1946.

10. **Procedure for the grant of Protected Area/Restricted Area Permit**

- (1) Foreign nationals intending to visit a place falling in the Protected/ Restricted Area notified by the Government, may submit an application for the grant of Protected/Restricted Area Permit to the Indian Mission in their country along with the visa application or before coming to India.
- (2) If foreign nationals, who are already in the country, desire to visit any area covered by the Protected /Restricted Area regime, they should submit the requisite application to any of the authorities to whom the powers to issue such a special permit have been delegated.
- (3) In all cases relating to the grant of PAP/RAP for an individual foreign tourist (*except in cases where powers have been delegated*), the proposal would require prior clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

11. **Protected Area Permit** : Areas open for tourism in different States, tour-circuits to be followed by foreign tourists where applicable, and the authorities delegated with the powers to grant a special permit are given below:-

(A) Arunachal Pradesh

- (1) The whole of Arunachal Pradesh is in the Protected Area. No foreigner can enter or stay in the State without obtaining a permit from the competent authority. However, (i) foreign tourists in a group consisting of two or more persons, duly sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India and with a pre-drawn itinerary; (ii) a group of two foreign tourists, even if they are not a married couple ; and (iii) a foreigner married to an Indian national belonging to the State of Arunachal Pradesh visiting the State on a tourist visa, can be allowed to visit the

places indicated below, after obtaining a Protected Area Permit from the competent authority, for a period of thirty (30) days:

- (i) Along, Deporijo, Itanagar, Pasighat, Ziro.
 - (ii) Mia, Namdapha, , Sejus (Puki) , Sejus (Puki), Tipi
 - (iii) Bhalukpong.
 - (iv) Pasighat-Jengging-Yingkiong-Tuting.
 - (v) Bhalukpong-Bomdilla-Tawang
 - (vi) Roing-Mayodila-Anini.
 - (vii) Tezu-Hayuling.
 - (viii) Along-Mechukha.
 - (ix) Daporijo-Nacho circuit via Taliha and Sayum.
 - (x) Ziro-Palin-Nyapin-Sangram-Kaloriang.
 - (xi) Doimukh-Sagalee-Pakke Kasang-Seppa
 - (xii) Margerita-Miao-Namdapa - Vijoynagar
 - (xiii) Margerita-Jairampur-Nampong-Manmao-Pangsau Pass
- (2) The following authorities have been delegated the powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP) to organized foreign tourist groups for the places mentioned above, for a maximum period of thirty (30) days after usual checks: -
- (i) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (ii) All Indian Missions abroad
 - (iii) FRROs at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Amritsar, Hyderabad and Bangalore
 - (iv) Home Commissioner, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar
 - (v) Resident Commissioner of Arunachal Pradesh at Delhi; and
 - (vi) Secretary (Tourism), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
- (3) Deputy Resident Commissioners (DRC), Kolkata and Guwahati have been delegated powers to issue PAP directly to the foreign tourists without sponsorship of registered Tour Operator.
- (4) Resident Commissioner (RC), New Delhi and Deputy Resident Commissioners (DRC), Kolkata and Guwahati have been delegated powers to issue PAP to single foreign tourist to visit Tawang District, West Kameng District and Lower Subansiri District.

Note: Prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs is necessary for grant of PAP to a citizen of Myanmar for visiting Arunachal Pradesh.

(B) Himachal Pradesh

- (1) The part of Himachal Pradesh falling between the 'Inner-Line' and the International Border has been declared as a 'Protected Area'. No foreigner can enter or stay in the protected area of the State without obtaining a permit from the competent authority. However, foreign tourists in groups consisting of two or more persons, duly sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India with a pre-dawn itinerary, can be allowed to visit the following places for 30 days, after obtaining a Protected Area Permit (PAP) from the competent authority: -

Distt Kinnaur:- Pooh Block:- (1) Sumra (2) Shalkhar (3) Chango (4) Nako (5) Maling (6) Maling Dogri (7) Yang Thang (8) Kaa (9) Leo (10) Hango (11) Chuling (12) Hangmat (13) Namgia (14) Khab (15) Tashigang (16) Dubling (17) Dabling (18) Pooh (19) Labrang (Pooh) (20) Shayaso (21) Shunnam (22)

Giabung (23) Taling (24) Ropa (25) Rushkulang (26) Nasang (27) Kanam (28) Labrang (29) Spillo (30) Moorang (31) Gramang (32) Thobaring (33) Khopka (34) Shilling (35) Ruwang (36) Thangi (37) Lamber (38) Charang (39) Kunu (40) Lipa (41) Asarang.

Distt Lahul & Spiti :- Spiti Sub Division:- (1) Dhankar (2) Shichling (3) Poh (4) Tabo (5) Hurling (6) Lari (7) Gue (8) C.P. Samdo (9) Korik

- (2) The visit to the above mentioned places is subject to the following conditions:-
 - a) Military installations, field defences and other security establishments and locations overlooking these will be out of bounds. Photography of these areas will be prohibited.
 - b) All persons moving in the notified area will be required to be in possession of a valid identity card and their movement will be regulated by the civil administration.
 - c) No access on roads leading to Shipkila and Kaurik areas from NH-22 will be permitted.
 - d) Duration of stay in the notified area will be regulated on a case to case basis.
- (3) A foreign tourist without a PAP can visit the following areas in the State:
 - (i) Kaja
 - (ii) Kaja-Kibbar-Prangla Pass - Baralacha- Keylong- Manali (for trekking)
- (4) The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP) to organized foreign tourist groups after usual checks: -
 - (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (2) Indian Missions abroad
 - (3) Government of Himachal Pradesh.
 - (4) DM/ADM or officer authorized by him at Shimla, Kullu, Lahaul & Spiti and Kinnaur
 - (5) SDM Shimla, Rampur, Kullu, Keylong, Kaza, Pooh, Kalpa and Bhavnagar.
 - (6) I.T.B.P. who may authorize an officer not below the rank of DSP level. A copy of the permit issued by the ITBP should be sent to DM/SDM concerned.
 - (7) Special Commissioner (Tourism) Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
 - (8) Resident Commissioner/Dy. Resident Commissioner, Govt. of HP in Delhi
 - (9) DGP, H.P, Shimla.

(C) Jammu & Kashmir

- (1) The part of the State of J&K falling between the 'Inner-Line' and the International Border has been declared as a Protected Area. No foreigner can enter or stay in the protected areas of the State without obtaining a permit from the competent authority. However, groups consisting of two or more persons to be accompanied by an authorized representative of a recognized travel agent, with a pre-drawn itinerary, can be allowed to visit the following places on identified tour circuits by the competent authority. The visit to all the places in each sub-division together shall be limited to the requisite minimum period, which should not exceed seven (7) days:

(i) **Khaltse Sub-Division** (Drokapa Area) Khaltse-Dumkhar-Skorduchan-Hanudo-Biama-Dha.

(ii) **Nubra Sub-Division**

(a) Leh-Khardung La-Khalsar-Tirit upto Panamik.

(b) Leh-Khardung La-Khalsar upto Hunder.

(c) Leh-Sabo-Digar La-Digar Labab-Khungru Gompa-Tangar.

(Only for trekking conducted by approved tour operators and accompanied by State Police Personnel)

(d) Various parts of Ladakh (Panamik up to Warshi including Yarma Gompa/ Yarma Gonbo Monastery in Nubra Valley)

(iii) **Nyoma Sub-Division.**

(a) Leh-Upshi-Chumathang-Mahe-Puga-Tso-Morari Lake/ Korzok.

(b) Leh-Upshi-Debring-Puga-Tso-Morari Lake/Korzok.

(c) Leh-Karu-Chang La-Durbuk-Lukung-Spankmik (Pangong Lake upto Spankmik)

(iv) Spankmik to Man and Merak in the Pangong Lake area and from Mahe to Loma Bend.

(v) Chiktan and Batalik areas in Kargil District. The tour circuits are:-

(a) Kargil – Khangral – Shaker – Chiktan – Sangak – Leh, and

(b) Dah – Garkone – Darchik – Batalik – Silmo – Kargil Town.

(vi) Turtuk, Pachatanag and Tyakshi villages in the Turtuk Valley.

(2) Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the District Magistrate concerned may issue the Protected Area Permit (PAP) for a maximum period of seven (7) days after requisite security checks in respect of visiting foreign tourists in a group of two or more persons sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India with a pre-drawn itinerary for the places now open for tourism. They should be accompanied by an authorized representative of the recognized travel agent who would act as the escort to the group.

(3) It is obligatory on the part of the tourists, tour operators and other agencies concerned with the organized tour to ensure that the tourists travel on the identified tour circuits only.

(4) Leh-Manali Road may also be kept open to foreigners during the period between 15th July and 15th October. Tours to be organized by recognized travel agents in India only who will ensure that such groups do not split and are confined to the specified mode of conveyance viz. jeep, matador etc. by attaching their representatives to the groups.

Note : Prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs is necessary for grant of PAP to a citizen of Myanmar to visit a protected area in J&K.

(D) Rajasthan

(1) Certain areas near the international border in the State of Rajasthan have been declared as Protected Areas. As such, no foreigner can enter or stay in the protected areas of the State without obtaining a permit from the competent authority. These protected areas generally fall in the belt of 40 km. inside the

State of Rajasthan from its international border i.e., Western side of National Highway No.15 running from Sriganganagar to Sanchore via Sriganganagar, Suratgarh, Lurkaransar, Bikaner, Gajner, Kolayat, Phalodi, Khera, Ram Devra, Pokaran, Lathi, Jaisalmer, Sangad, Fatehgarh, Sheo, Bhadewa, Kapoordi, Barmer, Hathitala, Sanwara, Lookhoo, Gandhwa, Dhamuna subject to the following exceptions: -

- (i) Peripheral areas of cities, towns and villages on the National Highway No.15 through which it passes.
 - (ii) The city limits of Suratgarh, Bikaner, Phalodi, Pokaran, Jaisalmer, Barmer and Sanchore.
 - (iii) The following villages and areas of tourist interest in the district of Jaisalmer: Amarsagar, Ludrawa, Kuldara, Bada Bagh (Black Bar), Akal, Sam and Unda.
- (2) Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Rajasthan and District Magistrates in respect of the territorial units under their respective jurisdiction in the State of Rajasthan can issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP) to a foreigner to enter into, or remain within, the protected areas mentioned above.
- (3) The following areas have been excluded from the PAP regime falling under Jaisalmer and Barmer districts of Rajasthan:-

I. High Tourism Potential Areas

District Barmer

- (a) Kiradu – 35 kms from Barmer
Route:- Barmer – Marudi – Langera – Jasai-Danta – Anta- Hathma
- (b) Juna Patrasar (Jain Temples) – 33 Kms
Route:- Barmer – Marudi Langera – Meethi Beri – Juna Patrasar

District Jaisalmer

- (c) Laxmanon-ki-basti & Turkon-ki-basti (sand dunes): 53 kms from Jaisalmer
Route:- Jaisalmer – Amarsagar – Moolsagar – Damodara – Sam - Loonon-ki Basti – Laxmanon ki Basti – Turkon ki Basti
- (d) Sudasari – 33 kms from Jaisalmer
Route:- Jaisalmer – Amarsagar – Moolsagar – Damodara – Sam – Ganga- Sudasari
- (e) Hadda – Deva – Mohangarh
Routes:- (i) Jaisalmer – Jethvai – Hadda – Deva – Kanod – Mohangarh (distance of 95 kms) (ii) Jaisalmer – Jethvai – Hadda – Kanod – Mohangarh: distance of 65 Kms.

II. Power Project areas in District Barmer

Bhadresh - area 3 Kms, radius around the location (Bhadresh):
31 Kms. from Barmer.

Route:- Barmer – Bothia – Harsani Phanta – Chuli – Bhadresh

- (4) For effective use of the areas mentioned under (3) above for tourism purposes (desert safaris, camping sites, desert rallies etc), areas extending 500 meters on either side of the roads leading to these places shall remain open. The revenue boundaries of villages in which the identified places of tourism interest fall are also exempted under the PAP regime.
- (5) The foreign tourists may be permitted to visit the tourism potential areas excluded from the PAP regime only with a pre-drawn itinerary and as a package tour organized by recognized travel agents/tour operators.
- (6) Government of Rajasthan can issue Protected Area Permit (PAP) in respect of visiting foreign tourists in a group of two or more persons for a maximum period of 30 days for visiting areas mentioned in (3) above.

(E) Sikkim

- (1) While certain areas of Sikkim between the West Bengal-Sikkim Border and the 'Inner Line' passing through the State have been declared as Restricted Area, the remaining areas falling between the 'Inner Line' and the International Border fall in Protected area. No foreigner can enter or stay in the Restricted or Protected area without obtaining a Restricted / Protected area permit from the competent authority. The places in the protected areas of Sikkim, which have been kept open for tourism only for specified duration, are mentioned below along with the authorities delegated with the powers to grant Protected Area Permit:

Tourist Circuit	Authorities delegated powers to issue Permit
<p><u>I. Tourist Circuit Routes</u></p> <p>(A) Gangtok, Rumtek, Phodong, Pemaytangtse, Khechoperi, Tashiding</p>	<p>The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP) for a maximum period of 30 days initially which can be extended by the State Government for another spell of 30 days:</p> <p>Ministry of Home Affairs, all FRROs, all Indian Missions abroad, Immigration Officers at Airports at New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Chief Secy./ Home Secy.; Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, I.G. of Police, Gangtok, Asstt. Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, Siliguri; Deputy Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. R.C., Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. RC, Govt. of Sikkim, Kolkata, Tourist Officer, Rangpo, D.C., Darjeeling; Dy. Secy./ Under Secy., Home Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata and Tourism Information Officer posted at Tourist Information Centre (TIC) at Darjeeling (West Bengal) and Melli (Sikkim).</p> <p>Individual tourists are allowed</p>
<p>(B) Zongri</p>	<p>Ministry of Home Affairs and all issuing authorities of Govt. of Sikkim and its</p>

	representatives at Kolkata, Siliguri and Rangpo have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP) for trekking only (for 15 days). Individual tourists not allowed.
(C)Tsangu (Chhangu Lake in East Sikkim).	The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP): Ministry of Home Affairs, Home Secy., Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok and Secy. (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim. Only day visit allowed. Individuals not allowed. Tourist groups are to travel on the identified tour circuits only.
(D)Mangan, Singhik, Tong, Chungthang, Lachung, Yumthang	The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permit (PAP): Ministry of Home Affairs, Home Secy./ Secy. (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim. Individual Tourists not allowed. Maximum stay 5 days.
(E) <u>I. East District</u> (i)Gangtok-Penlong-Tinjure-Rumtek/Martem <u>II. North District</u> (i)Gangtok-Chungthang-Lachen-Thangu. (ii)Mangan-Lingzia-Shabrung-Talung-Monastery-Kisong (except Yabok). (iii)Mangan-Lingzia-Sakyong-Royot Patam (except Gochala)-Dzongri-Yoksum. (iv)Yumthang-Phuni-Punichoka-Tarum Chachu-Chungtnag (v)Dikchu-Phodong Labrang-Namptam-Mangan-Maling-Singhik-Samartek-Chungthang. (vi)Lachung-Yumthang-Yume-Samdong. <u>III. South District</u>	Ministry of Home Affairs, all FRROs, all Indian Missions abroad, Immigration Officers at Airports at New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Chief Secy./ Home Secy.; Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, I.G. of Police, Gangtok, Asstt. Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, Siliguri; Deputy Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. R.C., Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. RC, Govt. of Sikkim, Kolkata, Tourist Officer, Rangpo, D.C., Darjeeling; Dy. Secy./ Under Secy., Home Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata, and Tourism Information Officer posted at Tourist Information Centre (TIC) at Darjeeling (West Bengal) & Melli (Sikkim) for 30 days initially which can be extended by the State Government for another spell of 30 days. Only organized foreign tourist groups are allowed. However, individual foreign tourists are allowed in Yoksum, Phodong, mangan, Singhik, all 4 Distt. Hqs. and all sub-Divisions i.e. Namchi, Pakyong, Soreng, Mangan, (except Chungthang), Barapthing, Rongli, Aritar, Rhenaka, Rorathang, Rangpo. Note : Duration of stay in places mentioned under North District will be only for 5 days.

<p>(i) Sirwani-Temi-Damthang-Tendong-Namchi</p> <p>(ii) Damthang-Tendong-Damthong-Rabangla-Maenam-Yangaang-Singchuthang-Sirwani</p> <p>(iii) Rabangla-Maenam-Borong/Polout-Tashiding.</p> <p>(iv) Kewzing-Rayong-Tinkitam-Legship.</p> <p>IV. <u>West District</u></p> <p>(i) Yoksum-Dzongri (except Gochala)</p> <p>(ii) Yoksum-Dzaongri-Thangsing- Lampokhri</p> <p>(iii) Utterey-Chewa Bhajang-Dhond-Garakhet-Oktak-Dzongri</p> <p>(iv) Hilley-Versay-Singalila-Chewabhanjang (except Utterey).</p> <p>(v) Hiley via Sombarey-Versay-Soreng.</p> <p>(vi) Hilley-Versay-Dentum (except Pilling)</p> <p>(vii) Peilling-Sangcholing-Khecheperi-Yuksom-Dubdi-Sinon-Tashiding.</p>	
<p>II. Mountain Biking / white water sports routes</p> <p>(i) Gangtok-Rumtek-Sang-Sirwani-Temi-Damthong-Ravong-Kewzing-Tashiding-Yoksum-Gyalzing-Dentam-Rinchenpong-Soreng-Jorethang Melli.</p> <p>(ii) Gangtok-Phodong-Rangrang-Dikchu-Makha-Sirwani- and join the Temi.</p> <p>(iii) Gangtok-Rumtek-Sang-Sirwani-Temi- Namchi-Jorethang-Melli.</p>	<p>Ministry of Home Affairs, all FRROs, all Indian Missions abroad, Immigration Officers at Airports at New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Chief Secy./ Home Secy.; Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, I.G. of Police, Gangtok, Asstt. Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, Siliguri; Deputy Director (Tourism), Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. R.C., Govt. of Sikkim, New Delhi; Asstt. RC, Govt. of Sikkim, Kolkata, Tourist Officer, Rangpo, D.C., Darjeeling; Dy. Secy./ Under Secy., Home Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal and Tourism Information Officer posted at Tourist Information Centre (TIC) at Darjeeling (West Bengal) & Melli (Sikkim). Only organized foreign tourist groups are allowed.</p>

<p>(iv) Gangtok-Rumtek-Sang-Sirwani-Temi-Namchi-Namthang-Rangpo.</p> <p>White water sport routes</p> <p>(i) Chungthang-Dikchu-Singtam-Melli.</p> <p>(ii) Legship-Jorethang-Melli.</p>	<p>However, individual foreign tourists are allowed in some places mentioned in para I (E) above. Period of stay 30 days. This can be extended by the State Government for another spell of 30 days.</p>
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- (2) Duration of the Protected Area Permit for foreigners for Green Lake Trekking has been increased from 5 days to 15 days.
- (3) Powers have been delegated for issue of PAP to foreigners for Green Lake Trekking to the Home Department of Government of Sikkim in consultation with local army units.

Note: Prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs is necessary for the grant of RAP or PAP to a citizen of Myanmar to visit Sikkim.

(F) Uttarakhand

- (1) The part of Uttarakhand falling between the 'Inner-Line' and the International Border has been declared a Protected Area. No foreigner can enter or stay in the protected areas of the State without obtaining a permit from the competent authority. However, foreign tourists in groups consisting of four or more persons, sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India with a pre-drawn itinerary, can be allowed to visit the following places after obtaining a Protected Area Permit (PAP) from the competent authorities.
 - (1) Nanda Devi Sanctuary in Chamoli and Uttar Kashi Districts
 - (2) Niti Ghati
 - (3) Kalinidi Khal
 - (4) Adjoining areas of Milam Glacier
- (2) The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Protected Area Permits (PAP) to organized foreign tourist groups consisting of four or more persons duly sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India with a pre-drawn itinerary after usual checks:-
 - (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (2) Government of Uttarakhand, DM / SDM concerned if the power is re-delegated by the State Govt.

12. Restricted Areas

- (1) Under the Foreigners (Restricted) Areas Order, 1963, the following areas have been declared as 'Restricted Areas':-
 - (i) Andaman & Nicobar Islands- Entire Union Territory.
 - (ii) Sikkim - Part of the State
- (2) The areas open for tourism, tour-circuits to be followed by foreign tourists and the authorities delegated with the power to grant special permit are given below.

(A) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

- (1) Foreign tourists can visit the following places after obtaining necessary permits from the competent authority provided the total stay in these places does not exceed forty five (45) days:
 - (i) Municipal Area, Port Blair
 - (ii) Havelock Island
 - (iii) Long Island
 - (iv) Neil Island
 - (v) Mayabunder
 - (vi) Diglipur
 - (vii) Rangat
 - (viii) Entire Island of Middle Andaman, excluding Tribal reserve.
 - (ix) All Islands in Mahatma Gandhi marine national Park except Boat, Bobday - twin Islands Tarmugti, Malay, and Pluto (Night halt in these islands subject to special permission of the UT Admn.).
 - (x) Entire Island of South Andaman, excluding tribal reserve.
 - (xi) Baratang Islands.
 - (xii) North Passage Island.
 - (xiii) Little Andamans Island excluding tribal reserve.
 - (xiv) Jolly Buoy
 - (xv) South Cinque
 - (xvi) Red Skin
 - (xvii) Mount Harriet
 - (xviii) Madhuban
 - (xix) Ross Island
 - (xx) Narcondum Island
 - (xxi) Interview Island
 - (xxii) Brother Island
 - (xxiii) Sister Island
 - (xxiv) Barren Island-restricted to visit on board vessels only with no landing ashore.
- (2) For places mentioned from (xiv) to (xxiv) only day visit is allowed. Citizens of Myanmar are not allowed to visit Mayabunder and Diglipur without the prior permission of Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (3) In order to ensure preservation of natural and marine resources (including marine parks and environment) of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands without affecting tourism at large, it should be ensured that the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forest from time to time are strictly adhered to.
- (4) Ministry of Home Affairs, all Indian Missions and posts abroad, FRROs at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Amritsar, Hyderabad and Bangalore, and the Immigration officer, Port Blair have been delegated the powers to issue a Restricted Area Permit (RAP) to a foreign tourist after usual checks.

(B) Sikkim

- (1) The whole State of Sikkim has been declared a Protected Area under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order 1958. However, certain areas of Sikkim falling between the North of the present Sikkim-West Bengal boundary and the 'Inner-Line' as specified in Schedule-I to the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958 have been declared as Restricted Area with effect from 20.2.90

and brought under the purview of the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963.

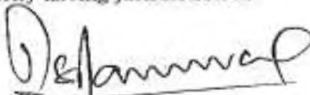
- (2) The places of tourist interest falling in the restricted area of Sikkim are Gangtok, Rumtek, Phodang and Remayangtse. No foreigner can enter or stay in these places without obtaining a permit from the competent authority.
- (3) While an individual foreign tourist can be allowed by the competent authority to visit the restricted areas of Sikkim such as Gangtok, Rumtek, Phedong and Pemayangtse for a period upto fifteen (15) days, only organized foreign tourist groups sponsored by a recognized travel agency in India with a pre-drawn itinerary can be allowed to visit the remaining parts of Sikkim (i.e., beyond the 'Inner-Line' towards the International Border) which continue to remain a Protected Area. The foreigners should travel to open places, as far as possible, on a National Highway.
- (4) The following authorities have been delegated powers to issue a Restricted Area Permit (RAP) for a maximum period of fifteen (15) days in Sikkim to a foreign tourist after usual checks:-

- (i) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (ii) All Indian Missions abroad.
- (iii) FRROs at Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Amritsar, Hyderabad and Bangalore.
- (iv) Immigration Officer at the Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai airports.
- (v) Chief Secretary / Home Secretary / Secretary (Tourism) to the Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.
- (vi) I.G Police, Sikkim, Gangtok.
- (vii) Assistant Director, Government of Sikkim, Siliguri.
- (viii) Deputy Director (Tourism), Government of Sikkim, New Delhi.
- (ix) Resident Commissioner, Government of Sikkim, New Delhi.
- (x) Assistant. Resident Commissioner, Government of Sikkim, Kolkata.
- (xi) Tourist Officer, Rengpo.
- (xii) Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling.
- (xiii) Deputy Secretary / Under Secretary, Home Department, Government of West Bengal, Kolkata.

Note : Prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs is necessary for the grant of a RAP /PAP to a citizen of Myanmar for visiting Sikkim.

13. Prohibited Areas

No foreigner can visit or reside in any prohibited place, declared as such under the provisions of the Officials Secrets Act, 1923 without the permission of the civil authority having jurisdiction at such place.



(Pratap Singh Rawat)
Under Secretary to the Government of India